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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1888

No. 305

SEBASTIAN.

A TALE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA.

[Continued from Vol. VI. P. 602.]

10

"Sweet creature! angel of my life!
This hour repays the ills, the strife
That brought me to this dreary den
The victim of ungenerous men.
What! is it true—or do I dream—
The fancy of a heated brain—
That maketh life's last moments seem
Replete with youthful joys again!
No dream! no dream! that form I see,
That glowing eye still bent on me,
And blushes mantling on thy cheek,
Which tell me more than words can speak.
Forgive my warmth—long years have past
Since looks like thine on me were cast,
Since kindly accents met my ear,
And woman's form stood smiling near.
Long years have past—my days have been
One frenzied and unblessed scene,
And little that my life can show
Becomes thy tender soul to know;
Yet must I tell thee, lest thou deem
The prisoner worse than he doth seem.

11

"It matters not to tell thee how
These days were spent, when on this brow
The light of youthful gladness flashed—
My spirit free and unabashed—
When in fair Lusitania's plains,
All free from cares and manhood's pains,
I played away the sunny hours,
Or dreamt amid the shady bowers,
And pictured life without a sorrow,
All bright to-day—the same to-morrow.
Those days are gone, and why should I
Resummon to my Fancy's eye
Those long lost joys of vanished years,
Recallers of unwelcome tears?

12

"There was an old grey-headed man,
Sun-burnt his cheek—dark with the tan
Of tropic climes—for he had been
With Albuquerque in every scene.
Of glory in the eastern seas,
When to the soft and spicy breeze
My country's banner was unfurled
To triumph in the Orient world.

Oft would I listen to his story
Of countless wealth and peerless glory,
Got in those rich and sunny climes,
In the bright days of olden times.
He spoke of Ormus—that famed isle
Lit with the sun's perpetual smile,
And set in that romantic sea
That laves the coast of Araby,
The isle they call the world's chief gem,
The best in nature's diadem—
Of its unequalled wealth and trade,
Its pomp—and all that could have made
A youthful, ardent soul like mine
Pant for a world I deemed divine.
He told how Albuquerque had fought
There, and on the Malayan shore—
What fame was his!—what spoils he brought
What splendor when the toil was o'er!
How feast and festival was theirs
Who fought beneath his colours bright!
How gold and gems—without their care—
Followed always the glorious fight!
How beauty's smiles and brightest charms
Repaid always the toil of arms!
What wonder that my spirit felt
The wish to dwell where he had dwelt!
What wonder then, that visions bright
Thick crowded on my fancy's sight!
And I resolved to leave my home,
In regions of delight to roam,
And seek those joys and dangers sweet
Which daring youth so loves to meet.
Ambition glowed within my brain
A soldier's life!—all else was vain!
I dreamt of conquered realms, sacked towns,
Sceptres usurped, and plundered crowns,
The pomp of war, the pride of power,
And victory's delirious hour.
My sword I buckled to my side,
And sped across the waters wide,
Nor sighed to leave that pleasant clime
Where I had spent sweet boyhood's time.

13

"Long years have past, and I have been
In many a strange and bloody scene;
On Reccan's coast, on Pegu's shore,
Where Christian foot ne'er fell before;
And oft among those spicy isles
Where the blue sea like Heaven smiles.
And I have seen War's demon game,
Have shared its glory and its shame,
Familiar with its horrors grown,
And witnessed deeds I would not own.

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A CHAPTER

SIR STEUARD
India Club

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"The night was beautiful and calm,
And, like some rare and subtle balm
Prepared by angel Alchymy,
The moonlight spread around, above,
And seemed to stir the soul to love.
Clear in my memory is the light
And beauty of that fatal night :
I sat upon my terrace then
Thinking on those moments when
First in my youthful mind arose
Those dreams that broke youth's sweet repose
And led my footsteps to this clime
Ere life had grown to manhood's prime.
'Twas silent all, when quick the cry
Of tumult rent the still sky,
Wild shrieks of murder and dismay
Gave signal of the bloody fray.
I strained my eye, I bent my ear ;
The horrid tumult gathered near ;
I rushed into the open street
When soon, too soon the truth was told,
For lifeless lay beneath my feet
Many a Lusian comrade bold.
My single arm I felt was vain :
I fought 'tis true, but sought to gain
The shore where haply none might mark
My passage to a friendly bark
That floated on the waters there,
Free from the Moslem's wily snare.
The shore was reached, the bark was gained,
And I with foeman's blood all stained
Trod the firm deck as fast each sail
Expanded to the favoring gale.
The shore grew dim, the breeze blew strong
And merrily we dashed along ;
Joy gleamed upon each gladdened brow
As onward flew the friendly prow.

will probably get into trouble and have to compensate the bunnah he has apparently treated so illegally. In the meanwhile, the holder of the promissory note in being sued is the Civil Court at Simla, for wrongful attachment and arrest by the victim of the Rajah's illegality, as the decedent resides and carries on business within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Simla Court. It is said that the plaintiff assesses his damages at Rs. 2,000."

THE number of visitors to the Indian Museum during December last reached 44,753 persons, including 34,332 native males and 9,152 native females and 979 male Europeans and 290 European women. As the Museum was open for 21 days only, the average of daily attendance was as high 2131—as an indubitable proof of popularity.

WE are obliged to Major Cooper, the Honorary Secretary, for the following five items of information regarding the Countess of Dufferin's Fund:—

"The first of the Silver medals presented by H. E. the Viceroy to the National Association for supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India has been claimed by the authorities of the Grant Medical College, Bombay, for presentation to Miss B. Bradley, the most successful student during the past year at the first examination in the certificated Practitioners Class.

Sir Walter Desouza, whose liberality has enabled many female students to study at the Calcutta Medical College, has just placed a cheque for Rs. 2,400 in the hands of the Central Committee, being his final donation to the sum which, under the name of the Desouza Trust, has conferred so much good to scholars and sick in the Indian metropolis.

The Queen's Register is nearly finished, but the number of contributors to the Jubilee collection were so great that it will yet be some days before the book will be ready for despatch to Her Majesty, as every entry has to be most carefully examined. A copy of the list is being made out for printing, and the names of all contributors, together with the copy of the Presentation Address, will be published with the Annual Report.

The capital engraving in a recent number of the *Graphic* of Dr. Barter's class of nurses at Nagpur, Central Provinces, shows that interest in the movement has extended beyond the limits of the Indian Empire. The reports from the Branches are now being received by the Central Committee, and give a very satisfactory account of the progress of the Association during the past twelve months. The provincial organisation is working well, and the local Committees are settling down steadily to their work. The co-operation of the Medical authorities and the various Municipalities and District Boards is very noticeable in the reports of the Branches. The interest taken in the movement by the non-official members of the various local Boards and Committees is one of the most encouraging signs of public approval.

The Third Annual General Meeting will be held in Calcutta early in February, and it is hoped that it may be attended by representatives of the various Branches. There are not any changes to propose in the Rules of the Association, but it is very probable that it may be found necessary to incorporate the Association in view of the increasing responsibility incurred in the distribution and custody of public money."

THE appointment of Sir Charles Elliot in the place of Sir Theodore Hope in the Viceroy's Council is gazetted, and he has taken his seat.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

WE are officially informed that the last pillar on the Murghab section of the Afghan frontier was erected by the end of December. Colonel Alikhanoff, the Governor of Merv, and Colonel Tarkhanoff, the Governor of Punjab, with some German travellers and a considerable Turkoman escort, were present. Hospitalities were exchanged by the English and Russian Officers. The two parties were to have started north-eastwards the first week in January. All's well that end's well.

THE Maharaja of Mysore is at present staying in Calcutta on a visit. His Highness arrived here last Tuesday and was escorted in one of the Viceroy's carriages under the usual salute, to his residence, 21 Garden Reach. His Highness' people, high and low, Europeans and Asiatics, made the best of their way to their quarters on foot or in chance ticca Bengal bandies or such other inconveniences or misconveniences as luck favored or favored them not. There were no arrangements for the transport of the following host, and the usual ticca garies that lounge at the terminus happened not to be in force. To add to the situation, the Port Commissioners who wait for no Raja or Rajmantri, true to their almanac, were dodging to disolve for the moment their nuisance of a shanty dingy bridge. Accordingly a "stampede" was ordered. Were it not for the hospitable courtesy of the Viceroy, the great station might have resounded with, A horse! a horse! a kingdom for a horse; etc., A cab! a cab! a Raja for a cab!

THE State *Mahmandar* and other paraphernalia of the Foreign Office—be they Boses or Dasses, Bukshs or Browns, Smiths or Joneses—are in high feather and "mighty jolly," like doctors at the approach of the sickening season. In these days of retrenchment they are not only glad of an opportunity for showing some work but they are in pretty good demand, and the quotation promises daily improvement. Their duty is simply delicious. It is literally a Business of Pleasure—to feast and be feasted. For, doubtless they are not such simpletons as to forget the claims of No. 1. Nor are the guests such churls as to scruple to help them to the good things to be paid for by the practically absent third party, the Indian rate payer. And the Indian Princes always reserve a good fund for free will Backheesh to the incorruptible *Ars Beghies*, *Khansamans*, *Mooshreffs*, *Moot-suddies*, and menials of the Household of the British Mogul.

Just now Mysore is the great gun among the native guests, but a motley crew are soon expected who may function in this Calcutta season as the Khan of Khelat did at Lord Lytton's Grand *Tamasha* of Empire at Delhi. There is already a dubious flutter among the Foreign Office people. For they are preparing for the advent of a frontier mountain chief. This is no other than Sardar Afzul-ul-Mulk of Chitral, who with 22 followers, arrived at Sialkot from Jammu on the 26th. Thence the party were to start for Calcutta on the 5th January, and, calling at Delhi *en route*, reach Calcutta on the morning of Tuesday next, the 10th January.

The Governor of Bombay and Lady Reay arrived in town this morning under the usual honors. They will stay here ten days and take Benares and other upcountry cities in the return.

PURSUANT to announcement in the papers, Mr. Locke Richardson's recital of Julius Cæsar came off on Thursday night at the Dalhousie Institute, before a distinguished and sympathetic audience headed by the Viceroy and Lady Dufferin, and the Lieutenant-Governor with their respective suites. The hall was fairly filled with European ladies and gentlemen. The Indian attendance was confined to the sterner sex, of every age and condition. Student and teacher, guardian and ward, pleader and client, black curls and grey hairs, were there, animated by the common desire of listening to the words of the immortal dramatist through the voice of a great elocutionist whom a good wind had blown to our shores. It is to be regretted that the emancipated denizens of the zenana and the girl graduates were quite unrepresented. Such abstention may lead to an impression that the sensation novel is more to their taste than the writings of the world's bard and that Portia is not a model which they care to honor, much less to imitate. Here (as often elsewhere) the Mahomedan community was represented in the sole person of Nawab Abdool Luteef.

The hour for the performance was not mentioned, and vaguer word than "evening" does not exist in English or any other language. No wonder, some of the audience came rather too early on the scene. We suppose the same circumstance is accountable for the late appearance of the Government House party, which delayed the opening of the business, causing some truly British grumbling. There was also some confusion in the allotment of the so-called reserved seats which we suppose will not be repeated.

Mr. Richardson quite fulfilled the expectations he had raised in the minds of his audience. The recital was intelligent and interesting throughout; the expression dramatic, the action being always suited to the word. Starting with the advantage of a pleasing exterior, the performer sustained the attention of his audience by the varying modulations of his voice proper to the different characters, as by appropriate aside observations and explanations which took the place of hand-bills and scenery, thus as it were singly representing all the parts. Mr. Richardson also introduced critical observations upon different characters and scenes in the play which had the merit of condensing, within a small compass, the cogitations of many writers. We do not think it necessary to revert to these last beyond drawing attention to a mistake in the criticism of the morning press. Shakespeare's Cæsar is *not* the all-accomplished statesman, the splendid orator, and all the rest of it. With all his "little Latin," the Poet has, by instinct of genius, been able generally to present the truth of Roman life and of the recorded event. The exception is in the character which gives name to the play. He would have better called it "Brutus." His Cæsar is neither the Cæsar of history, nor the Cæsar of the Commentaries. The notable deficiency in the creation is that it

Cæsar is no doer at all—no man of action. On the contrary, he is represented with all his infirmities, so as to justify the conspiracy against him and to exalt the character of Brutus, and it is a rather serious mistake to father the opposite view upon, of all men, a lifelong student of Shakespeare like Mr. Richardson. We are glad to find that encouraged by his first success with our fellow-citizens, Mr. Richardson proposes the recital of *Merchant of Venice* as per details mentioned elsewhere in our columns. We trust he will meet with the good success which he richly deserves.

A DIVISIONAL Bench, consisting of the Chief Justice Sir Comer Petheram and the Hon'ble Mr. Chunder Madhub Ghose, have referred to the Full Bench the question of Hindu Law of inheritance, namely, whether uncle's son's son or brother's son shall first succeed.

It is in go-ahead America that woman's rights are receiving the utmost development. The land swarms with lady doctors, lady lawyers. Females are crowding every civil profession and employment. Girls and boys are educated together. In many exercises the ladies take their full share. At Washington alone a hundred ladies ride tricycles. In Nebraska, the lady leader of the bar has been raised to the bench.

In another particular, the sex is asserting itself, even in Old England—we mean women availing themselves of the benefits of the patent laws. Formerly their invention was at the mercy of ungenerous man. If a woman happened to make a useful discovery, she personally gained nothing by it, either in the way of pelf or praise, for some male cousin or other relative of the ruder sex usually appropriated it. Woman now claims her own. Many fair inventors are in the field and careful of their rights under the patent laws. The genuineness of the inventions as results of female ingenuity is beyond question. The mark of femininity is on them. Indeed they all belong to the sphere of woman's life in particular. Thus Lady A. M. W. Fitz William has registered a new ambulance. Another lady, Philott by name, has patented two inventions, (1) a gridiron for frying fish, and (2) a rotatory bread grinder to make up waste pieces of bread into crumbs. A woman of Essex announces a protection—much needed—for the tip of the toe of shoes. An America lady, as fitting, has distanced them all by the invention of a process for cleaning and renewing dresses without taking them to pieces. It is strange that such a supreme necessity should have to this day remained unattended to—that the *desideratum* should still exist. But then it was felt only by women and the discovery belonged to the male department.

THE whole Hindu world will be interested to know that its Taianga Swamin is no more! The charm at last wore away, and that phenomenon of longevity as he was deemed, has paid the debt of Nature. After baffling the patience of generations, the sainted Kishi expired on Monday the 26th December. On the following morning the body was carefully deposited in a wooden box and consigned to the Ganges the box being perforated with nooks so as to admit the holy water whose touch is to cleanse the spirit that had left but not to let fishes and other aquatic animals prey upon the body. One would have thought that a sage and devotee would be glad of the opportunity of providing with his lifeless body a good feast to the denizens of the water below. So the late Raja Radhakanta left minute directions touching the disposal of his remains, how his body was to be left to the turtles of Mathura to be devoured, etc. The method adopted in the late Swamin's case is said to be the usual way of disposing of the bodies of Jogees and others who are not burnt.

THIS is the New Year's Day Feast of Honours for Official India, Her Majesty's banquet to her servants, with a few crumbs for such hungry outsiders as happen to enquire about the bill of fare of the coming day and the guests to be specially favoured:—

STAR OF INDIA.

Knight Grand Commander.—His Highness Sawai Madho Singh Bahadur, Maharajah of Jeypore.

Knights Commanders.—James Braithwaite Peile, Esq., Member of Council, Secretary of State for India; Hon'ble Saiyid Ahmed Khan Bahadur, Member of Council of Lieutenant-Governor, N. W. P.; and Colonel James Browne, lately Engineer-in-Chief, Sind-Pishin Railway.

Companions.—Major-General Oliver Richardson Newmarch, late Secretary, Government of India, Military Department; Hon'ble

Philip Perceval Hutchins, Madras Civil Service, Member of Council of Governor, Fort St. George; William Erskine Ward, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, Judicial Commissioner, Burmah; Francis Langford O'Callaghan, Esq., Engineer-in-Chief, Sind-Pishin and Kwaja-Amran Railway; and Edward Raban Cave-Browne, Esq., Deputy Accountant-General, India Office.

INDIAN EMPIRE.

Knights Commanders.—Sir Charles Arthur Turner, *Knight*, late Chief Justice, Madras; Nawab Bashir ud-daula, Amir-i-Akbar Aman Jah Bahadur, Minister of His Highness the Nizam; Shams-ul-Umara Amir-i-Kabir Khurshid Jah Bahadur of Hyderabad; Edwin Arnold, Esq., author of 'Light of Asia' and other works; Maharajah Radhak Prasad Singh Bahadur, of Dumraon; and Vira Karala Varma Elaya, Rajah of Cochin.

Companions.—Hon'ble Frank Forbes Adam, Additional Member of Council of Governor, Bombay; Munshi Nawal Kishore, of Lucknow; Rao Bahadur Krishnaji Lakshman Nulkar, Chairman, Poona Sarvajanik Sabha; Colonel Henry Constantine Evelyn Ward, Bengal Staff Corps, now Minister, Bhopal State; Frederick Thomas Granville Walton, Esq., Engineer, Dufferin Bridge, Benares; Ney Elias, Esq., Political Agent; Shahzada Nadir, Honorary Magistrate, Loodiana; Kazi Saiyid Ahmad, Khan Bahadur, Attaché, Foreign Department, Government of India; Hon'ble Saiyid Amir Hussain, officiating Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, and Additional Member of Governor-General's Council; and Reinhold Rost, Esq., Librarian, India Office.

The title of *Maharajah* as a personal distinction upon Rajah Hurbullu Narain Singh Bahadur of Sonbursa.

The title of *Rajah Bahadur* as a personal distinction upon Kumar Padmanund Sing of Banelly, Purneah District.

The title of *Rajah* as a personal distinction upon Baboo Govind Lal Roy, of Rungpore, and Rai Rajendra Lala Mitra Bahadur, of Calcutta.

The title of *Mahamahapadhyaya* as a personal distinction upon Kabi Raj Shyamal Dass, of Meywar, and Bhimacharya bin Rambhat Zalkkar, Senior Shastri, Elphinstone College.

The title of *Shams-ul-Ulama* as a personal distinction upon Moulvie Mahommed Hossain, of Patna; Moulvie Nur Jamal Khan, of Miraj, and Kazi Abdul Latif, Londe Kazi of Bombay.

The title of *Wala Kadr* as a personal distinction upon Khan Bahadur Maksud Ali Khan, late Subordinate Judge, N. W. P.

The title of *Khan Bahadur* as a personal distinction upon the following:—Sayed Rezi Ali, of Purneah; Choudhri Nasrat Ali, Secretary, British Indian Association of Oudh Talukdars, and Honorary Magistrate; Khan Saheb Gulam Dastagir, Inspector of Police in Karachi; Naoroji Pestonji Vakil, Bombay; Sardar Fatah Khan Gheba, of Kot, in the Rawalpindi district; Sheikh Ghulam Hassan, Honorary Magistrate, Umritsar; Fakir Sanjid Burhan-uddin Khan, Extra Assistant Commissioner in Punjab and Naib Wazir in Bhopal State; Munshi Suzawar, Post-Master, Lahore, and Asad-ulla Khan, Superintendent, Northern India Salt Department.

The title of *Rai Bahadur* as a personal distinction upon the following:—Baboo Surjinarain Singh, Chairman, Bhaugulpore Municipality; Budh Sing Dudhuria and Bishen Chund Dudhuria, of Azimgunge, Moorsheadabad district; Lala Dargahi Lal, Honorary Magistrate, Cawnpore Municipality; Lala Krishna Sah, Member, Municipal Board, and Bench of Honorary Magistrates, Naini Tal; Munshi Dhankel Pershad, late of the Judicial Service in Oudh; Lala Krishna Sahay, Honorary Magistrate, Meerut; Lala Mema Mull, Clerk, Office of Director General of Ordnance; Baboo Pashupat Saran Sinha, Head Clerk, Office of Resident, Nepal; Dharm Narain, Tahsildar, Umballa, Lorde Mal, of Peshawar; Baboo Pran Kishen Ghosh, retired Superintendent, Comptroller-General's Office; Baboo Raj Kumar Sen, retired Superintendent, Financial Department, Government of India; Pundit Saligram, Superintendent of Post Offices, and Baboo Jugodishwar Chatterjee, Second Assistant Opium Agent, Benares.

The title of *Rao Bahadur* as a personal distinction upon the following:—Pundit Gopal Rao, Deputy Collector, Jhansi district; Gobind Ram, Marwari, of Jhansi; Tanjore Rajaram Row, Deputy Collector and Manager, Ramnad Zemindari, Madras; Raj Futeh Singh, of Dilwara, in Meywar; Raoji Trimback of Poona, late Sub-Engineer; Hari Apaji, late of Gaekwar's Contingent; Moroba Kesrinath, late Personal Assistant to Accountant-General, Bombay, and Rao Sahab Hari Raoji Chiplonkar, Member, Poona Municipality.

The title of *Sardar Bahadur* as a personal distinction upon—Sardar Rajendar Sing, of Katgarh, Honorary Magistrate in Hoshiarpore district; and Sardar Ajit Sing of Alawalpore, Punjab.

The title of *Khan Sahab* as a personal distinction upon Abdullah Khan, Inspector of Police, Ajmere, and Khudadad Khan, Head Munshi, Office of Commissioner in Sind.

The title of *Sardar* as a personal distinction upon—Atma Sing, of Padhana, and Bulaka Sing, Honorary Magistrates, Lahore district; and Kirpal Sing, Honorary Magistrate and President, Municipal Committee, Rawalpindi.

The Gondal State to rank amongst First-class States of Kathiawar.

The new learned distinctions have already begun to be abused. Thus the Mahomedan world will hear with astonishment Moulvi Mahomad Hossein of Pabna made a *Shamsul Ulama*. Poor Gobind Lal Roy having at last paid his pence—towards the Louis Bustee at Darjeeling, has got his life's end. He had bled for the Lieutenant-Governor in vain. We believe he had a sort of promise from Sir Rivers Thompson, but to his misfortune the Maharaja of Cooh Behar put a spoke in the wheel of his fortune. To add to his mortification, he saw his rival the Laird of Kakina—a much more important local magnate, with antecedents—elevated, while himself left in the lurch.

~~The~~ Doctors need not despair. Their crust of bread is certainly not in danger of being snatched away just yet! The sheet anchor of European practice is about to be strengthened once more. Besides cinchona they are going to have another substitute for quinine:—

"Chemistry seems destined to play almost as important a part in the annals of trade as did the substitution of machinery for hand labour. It is said that a chemist has discovered a substitute for quinine, which can be produced at much less cost than the article which now plays such an important part in the medicine of to-day, and the artificial production is said to possess all the medicinal qualities of the famous bark. This, if it indeed be so, will almost certainly destroy the trade in India and Ceylon, which has grown of late years to such proportions that it has practically stopped the export of the bark from Peru."

"If it indeed be so!" But there's the rub! But it is not so, and it cannot be as all Nature testifies, if science could see it. It is all nonsense that a chemist has discovered a substitute for quinine, which can be produced at much less cost than quinine. The new drug may be cheap as dirt, but it will be as nasty or worthless too, we are afraid. No chemist can achieve the impossible. It is not in Chemistry to produce a substitute for quinine or for any other drug. It is presumption in Chemistry to think of doing so, and a waste of energy to attempt it, seeing that that almost mechanical science has no understanding of drug action, belonging to the most delicate and difficult branch of all scientific investigation. So far from a substitute for quinine being produced, we are inclined to believe that the Indian quinine is not the same drug as the product of the South American bark.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1888.

THE OLD YEAR.

ANOTHER year has rolled itself into the Past—another link in the onward chain of existence has been measured up. Last Sunday ushered in the New Year—an event always regarded with solemnity, as it is welcomed with joy. May it prove happy to our friends and readers! If the Old Year was happy, may the New Year be happier still—by adding to the good the other might have brought. If the Old Year brought aught of evil, may the New Year take it away. To particular individuals, or particular aggregates of individuals, the year that is gone probably proved, as usual, very far from happy. In localities here and there, it would probably be remembered hereafter with feelings other than of the pleasantest kind. This is more or less the case with every Old Year. But however it may be viewed by the close annalist, the local observer, or individual sufferer, on a broad and comprehensive survey of its effects upon this God's world at large, no Old Year—except in periods of aberration, cycles of Vengeance—but will be found to have advanced it—brought positive gain in knowledge, and progress and happiness. Notwithstanding temporary aberrations—partial or periodical divergencies—this is the law of growth, of universal operation, in the past, as in the present and future.

The journalist in his customary review of the year often occupies, however, the position of a close annalist, and of a more or less local observer. Representing a limited constituency—more directly concerned with the affairs of a particular country or section of country, he must view things as they appear on his limited scale. The incidents of life in detail are often of a kind which denies him the optimism of the philosopher, the cheerful frame of mind induced by contemplating the whole panorama in its proper perspective. Microscopy, in History is obviously fatal to reverence and comfort.

In Europe, the Old Year has been one of continual unrest. The year began with the question of the Bulgarian succession in full swing, and now that it

closes, that question is far from closed as yet. It has been an interminable game of diplomacy, often threatening to lead to overt collision, happily prevented so far. Russia has claimed her right of interference in Bulgarian affairs, particularly in the choice of a ruler for the people, but there is chronic and powerful resistance in the new principality backed by countenance from without. Bulgaria has held her own so far, but not without a strain on her resources of a well-nigh intolerable kind. The strain is not confined to one country, the whole of the great and even some of the lesser European Powers, have been forced to increase their military armaments, and maintain them in a high state of equipment. In Germany, open rupture was imminent between the Man of Blood and Iron and the Reichstag on the subject of supplies, till the latter, after some resistance, gave way. The same thing was the case in France where General Boulanger exercised a fascinating spell over the people. His party has now gone out, but not before the military organization of the country has taxed the utmost resources of the people. France and Germany are like two gigantic camps, armed at every point, ready to close with each other at a moment's notice. What this chronic war scare means to the arts of peace—what a disaster it is to the real prosperity and happiness of the people, may well be imagined. A notable event which caused not a little sensation in France, was the scandalous disclosures about the sale of military honors and offices by M. Wilson, son-in-law of President Grevy, revealing the prevalence of corruption in most unexpected quarters. The atmosphere was so surcharged with distrust, that the soul of honor at the head of the State himself did not escape the shafts of faction. In the end, the son-in-law was cleared, but not before the father-in-law had resigned. Hence the formation of a new Government. This has not been the only change of ministry in the French Republic. The military party of Boulanger and the peace party, have managed to keep France on the rack of political restlessness. There have been several changes in the *personnel* of the Government, and the only thing certain seems to be the uncertainty which prevails.

In the European situation, England has not much embroiled herself, but the Bulgarians have just cause of complaint on the score of her attitude. Lord Salisbury is indeed satisfied that Bulgarian independence is safe in the keeping of the Great Signatory Powers to the Treaty of Berlin, but something more than such expressions of complacency would soothe the wounds which they are receiving in their unequal contest with a formidable Empire. The relations of Austria and Russia on the Bulgarian question, did not seem to be of the happiest, while speculation was rife as to the real leanings of Germany or the Porte. The war scare was by no means confined in Germany and France, a high standard of military preparedness being the great object everywhere. About the beginning of the year, Austria asked for a heavy military subsidy, and even Italy was not exempt from the craze. Indeed, the year has been one of great disaster to this rising Southern Power. She sustained great reverses in Abyssinia, which necessitated retaliation. Large reinforcements had to be sent, and altogether a protracted war has been on her hands all through the year, swallowing up all her resources, and keeping up ferment and commotion in political circles, and, as in France, rendering the chances of a stable Government impossible.

The English occupation of Egypt continues, and there is no knowing when it is going to determine. The British Government have continually professed to have no intention to make their stay in that country permanent, and have often fixed a time when it would be left "to stew in its own juice." Declarations of this kind gained some strength last year, and after protracted negotiations, an Anglo-Turkish Convention was proposed. In this Convention, the English agreed to evacuate the country after another period of two years, but they insisted on the right of re entrance and interference, in case the affairs of Egypt fell into disorder so as to affect the British interests in the land. This condition was one to which the assent of the Porte was endeavoured to be obtained, but the other European Powers intervened, and the Convention fell through, things again returning to their *Statu quo*. Indeed, the British policy in Egypt has been one of subterfuge, and a continual violation of repeated engagements.

England has had enough troubles of her own and to spare. The Irish Question continued to gather round it the dust and heat of the deadliest contest. It has led to a shuffling of old parties—a new alignment of old landmarks—till the well known leaders of the Liberals as well as the Conservatives find themselves with strange companions. Mr. Gladstone and Hartington are parted, with hardly any chance of reconciliation. Chamberlain has also gone from the Liberal following as well as Bright. The Grand Old Man now shares with Parnell the leadership of the Home Rule Party, and the Unionists have gathered to themselves some of the best and bravest of his *quondam* retainers. The Crimes Bill has passed, not without the enacting of disgraceful scenes in the staid British House of Commons which used to be free from such characteristic features of Continental and Transatlantic chambers. And the Act has been enforced with little moderation. There is almost a revolt in Ireland, but prosecution of Irish leaders and proclamations of meetings and even of the National League have not had a quieting effect.

Ferment reigns in England itself, the boasted land of Liberty and Order. The wave of Socialism has burst upon her shores—the ominous figure of Militarism has almost entered appearance. There have been terrible demonstrations of the Unemployed, reminding one of the worst tumults in the last days of the Roman Commonwealth. The excesses of the working classes knew no bounds. Like the cry of *panem et circences*, they paraded the streets with banners, bearing the inscription, "Bread or Work," wearing the Red Cap of Liberty, and even chanting the *Marseillaise*. It was, however, at the worst, an English rabble, and peace was soon enough restored, not, indeed, before resort had to be taken to the drastic plan of proclaiming public meetings, and considerable damage had been inflicted on trade and property. The police had a hard time of it, and required to be supplemented by the military. The Socialists must now be taken account with, here as well as on the Continent, and reigning sovereigns must put their heads together as to how long they could safely go on keeping the military system on the stretch.

Lord Dufferin's Viceroyalty has passed through a year of comparative quiet. Quiet, that is, so far as the turmoil of political dissensions which beset his predecessor is concerned. We remember his Lordship to have breathed the fond wish while replying to

the afterdinner congratulations which he received from his countrymen on the eve of his departure for India, that nothing would make him happier than to receive similar congratulations on his return, the interval being one of peace and silence in regard to his name. That wish has in a measure been attained, although we are not prepared to say the apparent calm has brought him real quiet of mind. His Government has been severely weighted with the financial difficulty, due, no doubt, to his own action in Burma. Notwithstanding the organization personally introduced by the Commander-in-Chief, the so-called brigandage of the Burmans has also continued to give trouble. Nor has the state of Afghanistan been without its anxieties. Some relief, has, indeed, come with the termination at last of the business of the Boundary Commission, but the mystery which still hangs over the movements of Ayub Khan, and the Ghilzai rebellion against the Amir, have left little peace to that country of distracted politics, and the troubles of Afghanistan, from whatever source, must have a share for the Government of India.

The year 1887 has been, so far as India is concerned, one of normal character, as regards the weather, the crops, and health. There have been no exceptional atmospheric disturbances, causing a serious failure of the harvests, nor the outbreak of sickness of an abnormal kind. So far the land has had opportunities of recovering from the effects of former disasters, which, by their recurrence, had brought it to a low ebb of life. The year, however, did not go, without having its full tale of disasters of another kind. The event which will be most sadly remembered in association with the year 1887, was the wreck of a pilgrim vessel, the *Sir John Lawrence*, bound for Pooree, in the Bay of Bengal, by a cyclone. The disaster fell like a thunderbolt on the city of Calcutta which was the greatest sufferer, the casualties being chiefly confined to inhabitants of the city. The loss of life was considerable, having, so far as it could be ascertained, been within a thousand, chiefly female. This accident, like the wreck of the *Hesperus*, fabled in song, was due to the foolhardiness of the Captain, but the enquiry, which, under orders of the Government, was made by a Committee into the circumstances, also disclosed defects in the management which should not exist. The constitution of the Committee of Enquiry was not all that could be desired, nor the witnesses examined of a sufficiently representative character. These defects must have affected the finding of the Committee, but Captain Neustein has not allowed the Committee to have the last word in the business, and the observations which he has published on the subject must go far to enable the impartial public to form an accurate judgment. The wreck of the *Sir John Lawrence* was followed by other disasters of the same kind. The *Maharatta*, another steamer chartered by the same firm, Messrs. Macneill and Company, to replace the lost *Sir John Lawrence*, met with a similar fate, the loss of life being, however, not considerable, according to the official view. The B. I. S. N. Company's steam vessel, *Arco*, stranded in the same sea, with the loss of 5 passengers. The year will be remembered for other calamities by fire or flood or storm, but accidents like these are never absent from the history of a year, and we have no wish to lay on dark colors to make our review unnecessarily gloomy.

In India, the year was heralded with the grand doings of the Queen's Jubilee. The celebration of that auspicious event took place in this country on the

16th and 17th of February, and great were the efforts made on all hands to make it an impressive spectacle. The whole country was astir—the manifestation of loyalty was unmistakable and universal. The Queen's Jubilee was of course formally celebrated with the usual demonstrations of pomp and rejoicing which strike the popular imagination. But these were not all. The loyalty evoked on the occasion displayed itself likewise in acts of permanent beneficence and charity. After satisfying the needs of scenic display and popular amusement—the illuminations and fireworks and musical displays being admired and enjoyed—enduring memorials of the event were sought to be established which would make the future partaker with the present of the celebration. The liberality shown on this occasion was something unique, and permanent works of public good are scattered over the length and breadth of the land to attest to future generations the loyalty of the Indian people. Several of the Native Princes commemorated the event by abolishing the transit duties. The celebration of the Jubilee in England took place in May, at which India was far from being unrepresented. Indeed, one of the most picturesque features of the Royal procession to the Westminster Abbey on the Jubilee day was the presence in it of a splendid array of Native Princes. As in India, the Jubilee called forth a burst of liberality among the British people, which also took the shape of institutions of a permanently beneficent character. The Native Princes have had to bear no small strain on their resources on account of the demands of the Jubilee. They had to make the celebration of it worthy of themselves in their own territory as well as participate in the public movements set on foot at Home. To the Indian and Colonial Imperial Institute, which, under the patronage of the Prince of Wales, has been found as the permanent memorial of the Queen's Jubilee for her dominions abroad, their contributions have been on a princely scale. The Jubilee has proved a godsend to philanthropists in furnishing them with a moral lever for more effectively working on public benevolence in support of the charitable objects which they had severally in view. Of such philanthropists, Lady Dufferin had not been slow to turn the occasion to account, and the Jubilee subscriptions to her Fund for Native Female Medical education and treatment have gone no small way in improving the financial position of the benevolent movement.

The Indian National Congress has, by its moderation, succeeded in disarming suspicion. The second Session of the Congress was held in Calcutta under the able presidency of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, and it dispersed about the beginning of the current year. Its discussions were conducted with such intelligence, knowledge, and, above all, temperance and sobriety as to contradict the calumnies which had been spread about it. Its enemies had ascribed to it extravagant and impracticable aims which existed nowhere except in their imagination, and which have been effectively belied by the proceedings of the body. The year closes with another sitting of the Congress at Madras, the business of which has been conducted with the same wisdom. To the Indian patriot, the spectacle of the whole continent coming together once a year to discuss matters of common interest cannot but be exceedingly gratifying. English education and the Indian press have now achieved what the Mogul arms failed to accomplish. India is now, for all practical purposes, one Empire, with identical interests, with one full

beating in the entire body politic, no better proof of which could be given than the fact of the Congress itself. To a Government constituted like that of British India, the voice of a National Congress cannot but be of the highest aid.

The financial pressure due to the increased military expenditure of the Imperial Government, has not abated since the previous year. On the contrary, it threatens to be chronic. The operations in Burma continue, and there is hardly knowing when this drain on the resources of the Empire will cease. The Afghan Boundary Commission has, indeed, closed after going through untold sufferings and privations of various kinds in its marches and during its sojourn in those inhospitable regions. What loss of life and treasure it has entailed remains to be completely accounted for. An adequate set-off for all this would doubtless be afforded by the establishment of cordial relations between the two Great Powers that contend for the sovereignty of the East. The prospect of such cordiality is, however, as remote as ever. In the meantime, the exigencies of a watchful military policy on the North-Western frontier, coupled with the lingering operations in Burma, absorb up all the resources of the State, cripple the prosecution of urgent works of public utility, affect all Provincial and even Local Funds, and prolong the imposition of a most odious tax upon a people unable for the most part to make the two ends meet. The necessities of the Imperial Government, paramount as they are, leave the Subordinate Governments nothing but to submit to sacrifices. The Decentralization scheme has been recast on new lines, much to the disadvantage of the Provincial Funds. Indeed, the fundamental principle of the scheme, namely, the prior equitable right of the Provincial Governments to these funds for provincial expenditure, has been abandoned, and a different principle laid down in its place. The Imperial Government is the master, and before the exigencies of Imperial protection and safety all other considerations must give way. No one is disposed to call in question the abstract necessity or justice of this principle. But its operation must be exceptional. The Provincial Governments have already acquiesced in it too long to be easy any longer. They have already starved themselves too long to remain quiet, and murmurs of discontent are beginning to be heard. The Imperial Government, it is true, have been anxious to obtain what relief it could by trying some husbandry of resources, and towards this object, appointed a Finance Committee. This Committee have held long and close deliberations, but, judging from the result, they do not appear to have attained any better success than similar Retrenchment Committees in the past. It is the old story of cheese-paring economy, the great vested interests being deemed inviolate. The true method of economy is to tackle with the big offices. But this will never be. Some concession has, indeed, been made by Lord Dufferin's Government to the clamour of the Indian party who have insisted on a larger infusion of the native element into the administration. A Public Service Commission has been sitting for the last two years, and its report is now ready. How far it will satisfy the just ambition of the people and at the same time meet the financial difficulty, we cannot say. Nothing short of organic reform, however, will be a permanent solution of the problem, and the recommendations of the Commission are looked forward to with the keenest interest. The continued financial

pressure borne by the Imperial and Provincial Governments, as it is the most notable administrative feature in the history of the year, has not been without direful effects upon the people at large. The Income Tax has been a terrible engine of oppression, and, while nothing less than its withdrawal is called for by the highest considerations of policy and justice, there are rumours already in the air of the Government intending to increase its incidence. Should these rumours prove to be true, nothing could be more disastrous for the country or more fatal for the good name of the Government of India.

Of other noteworthy events of the year, the most prominent place is due to the establishment of a Legislative Council and of a University for the North-Western Provinces. How far these measures were justified by the progress of that territory remains to be seen, but the dissatisfaction already expressed at the results of the Calcutta University, and the corruption which has been discovered in the management of the University of the neighbouring land of the Punjab might well have given some pause to those who precipitated the University movement in a notoriously backward province. The opportunity afforded by the institution of a Legislative Chamber for the North-West might have been taken to try, on a tentative scale, the principle of representation for which there is such a strong demand in the country.

Much dust of controversy has been raised during the year over a question of social reform, to wit, that of early marriage. It arose out of the misunderstanding between one married couple, in Western India, carpenters by caste, Dadaji Bhikaji and Rukhmabai. Whatever her grievances, the discontented wife knew to make capital of them, and, whatever her original charms, she has bloomed into a great heroine and a martyr. The controversy on the marriage question has become general, every part of the country having been drawn into its vortex, till the Government of India have issued a circular to Local Governments calling for opinion as to what action, Executive or Legislative, on the part of the State, might be justified by the circumstances.

The year following that of the Madras Scandals, had its own crop of scandals, if of a less grave kind. One of the sufferers from the Madras Scandals at the hands of Sir M. Grant Duff, we mean, Mr. Crole, has had justice done to him by the Secretary of State. The penalty of suspension and of loss of pay was revoked, and his conduct in the matter thoroughly vindicated. Of official peccadilloes of this year's own, the most prominent are the tyranny of Mr. Newberry, Magistrate of Rungpore, in what is named the Deer case, the Draconian justice meted out by over zealous Joint Magistrates like Mr. Holmwood of the 24-Pergunnahs, and Mr. Luson, of the Nuldea District; the disclosures in connection with the Beames case, and the alleged love intrigue of Mr. Wilson of Cambay, caused no small sensation amongst the people. In some of those cases, substantial justice has been

meted out to the offenders, but the orders of the Secretary of State in the Cambay Scandal case have been received with great astonishment and humiliation.

Our review of the year, imperfect and hasty as it is, must have its mortuary return. Death, as usual, was busy in high places, and middle and low. So far as Indian interest is concerned, it is by no means a meagre crop he has garnered to himself. Most prominent among the friends of India whose voice and pen have been lost to her, is Major Evans Bell. The Princes and people of India will never let his name die, so manifold have been his services to the cause of Indian political reform. Sir Ashley Eden, late a Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and who has left in this Province a thoroughly familiar name, also succumbed to a protracted illness. Among other retired Anglo-Indians whom death carried away, are the names of Dr. Norman Chevers, Mr. Bullen Smith, Sir F. Douglas Forsyth, Sir Philip Wodehouse and Sir Barrow Ellis. Some striking characters, with European reputation in their way, passed away in M. Katkoff, editor of the *Moscow Gazette*, and no mean factor in Russian politics, Mr. Newdegate, typical Tory Squire of the House of Commons and Herr Krupp, the greatest gun maker in the world. In our own country, death has robbed us of Dr. Ramdas Sen, a rising Orientalist, of Mr. Dear, the Monghyr benefactor, of Babu Rakhal Das Halldar, an ornament of the Executive Service, and a man of note in other respects, of Babu Hari Mohun Mookerjee, an enthusiast in botany and in agricultural improvement, of Dr. Anandabai Joshi after the completion of her foreign medical education, and of the benevolent Rani Sarat Sundari of Putia, as also of some tutelary or reigning Princes, as the Raja of Jhind, the transported Raja of Pooree, Nawab Kulb Ali Khan of Rampore, and the Ex-King of Oudh.

THE FIX IN THE FOOTLIGHTS.

WHILE the ring and the footlights have combined to perplex the choice of amusements of the "White Town" of Calcutta, there seems to be something like a fix in the public amusements of the denizens of the "Black Town." There has been quite a revolution of late in the playhouses in Beadon Street. Last season, we had native circuses added to the three theatres. One of the former even invaded the sacred grounds of the Maidan and scored a triumph that might be envied by even a Wilson or a Chiarini. The theatres did very well too. The Star, in especial, successfully strove to maintain the popularity of the native stage. *Bilwa Mangal*, a wholesome play—the old story with a thoroughly new and attractive face—drew men and money; while "Bellick Bazaar: or the Scamp's Exchange," a Christmas pantomimic sketch, nightly filled the house and its coffers. The latter was practically the hit of the season, and had a rather long run. It attracted crowds when even the thought of Christmas had once more been shelved in dreamland. The Star scored another financial triumph during the Jubilee. The manager rose to the height of the occasion. The decoration and illumination of the Star were pronounced by both press and public to be most tasteful. They attracted Viceroyal notice on the evening of the Procession of the 16th February, and His Excellency gave permission for advertising a patronage night with presence—a favour out of which he backed, nor wisely as we think, by lending his ears to some heroes in false sentimentalism fancy free. Perhaps he was afraid lest the scandal of the "Empress of the Arena" were repeated over again. It was a mistake, and the scandal which this mistake produced more than outbalanced the misconception which prompted it. That an Englishman of Lord Dufferin's age and experience should have thought of the morality of a stage-girl off the stage before looking at her on the stage, was perhaps the biggest joke of the season.

But this disappointment was as nothing compared to what the management of the Star had to experience at the

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Notable Facts.—Intense heat augments the annoyance of skin disease, and encourages the development of febrile disorders; wherefore they should, as they may, be removed by these detergent and purifying preparations. In stomach complaints, liver affections, pains and spasms of the bowels, Holloway's Ointment well rubbed over the affected part immediately gives the greatest ease, prevents congestion and inflammation, checks the threatening diarrhoea and averts incipient cholera. The poorer inhabitants of large cities will find these remedies to be their best friend when any pestilence rages, or when from unknown causes, eruptions, boils, abscesses, or ulcerations betoken the presence of taints or impurities within the system, and call for instant and effective curative medicines.

hands of Fate soon after. About this time a dark speck in the spotless blue of the heavens that has been so long smiling upon the proprietors of the Star, began to grow into shape. Scarcely a month had passed before it assumed formidable proportions. It struck terror into the hearts of the proprietors, though the manager managed to present a calm face for some time. The fact of it is that a member of the Colootola Seal family, just bursting out of the state of adolescence, took it into his head one fine morning to have a playhouse of his own. No sooner was it conceived than he thirsted to make it a *fait accompli*. The chief family trait in the stripling now showed itself. He would not only have a playhouse, but the very best, even to the destruction of all the others in the metropolis. The land lying immediately to the east of the Star Theatre was available and even the most prohibitive price offered by its fortunate proprietor was at once accepted and part of it paid in earnest. Here, however, there was a rub. The calm exterior of the manager of the Star had something to do with it. He was not only its manager, play-wright, "star" and director, but also its guardian angel. The manager went over to Baboo Gopal Lal Seal to expostulate with him on the ground of the wrong the Star was sure to suffer by the intended playhouse next door. The nuisance, he said, would be fatal to the interests of both the houses. It was all in vain, the young man was inexorable. The manager would then sell his own house for Rs. 50,000. The offer was accepted, the negotiation was about to be concluded when stepped in the millionaire's legal adviser. The young man's wild enthusiasm must be curbed, and if he must have the Star, the price must be only Rs. 30,000—for the goodwill, the profits and the prestige of the proprietors, and all. The manager was simply indignant, and the negotiation fell to the ground. And now the project of purchasing the adjacent land revived with redoubled fury. The millionaire was mad to buy it and the proprietor mad to sell it, but there came a hitch—an awkward hitch, it could not be bought or sold. From the details of this incident we would abstain. Suffice it to say that the still calmer mood of the Star Manager had something to do with it. For four months he strove armless and alone against formidable odds. But in the interests of his company it was useless holding out any longer, a deeper policy than all the legal heads in the metropolis could divine suggested itself to him. Suddenly one day he succumbed, the Rs. 30,000 was paid down and the "Star" became the "Emerald." Within a week the old proprietors bought land in Cornwallis Street, Grey Street-crossing, and laid the foundation-stone of the future Star. The building just now has almost neared completion, and looks even now as a grand and fine structure. It would have been completed and the Star re-opened before Christmas but for another and perhaps the happiest whim of the Emerald millionaire. He had the playhouse made a grand one by addition and decoration inside and out, but he badly wanted a grand manager to manage his grand concern. He had secured a veteran, but before the latter had had a trial the young gentleman changed his mind, succumbing to zenana influence, it is said. He now would have a surer public favorite. In fact, he must have Baboo Grish Chunder Ghose, the Star Manager and opened negotiation once again. Baboo Grish would not come deserting his old protégés unless they themselves would gladly part with him. To part with Grish, Baboo Seal paid the Star proprietors enough to gladden them and Grish was brought at his weight in gold. The calm hero of the footlights and favorite of fortune once more smiled to the most complete discomfiture of the legal and other wise heads.

After the storm, however, the calm has set in. We congratulate the young Baboo on his choice of his present manager. Baboo Grish Chunder Ghose—poet, actor, play-wright and dramatic master all rolled into one—is, as we have more than once said in these columns, a rare genius in the profession into which he has cast his lot. A man of extraordinary intelligence, and possessing rare practical wisdom, he would have flourished in almost any profession. A child of fancy, he early showed his turn for the boards wher on he soon enough made his mark. Father of his amateur company, he soon became the father of the professional Stage in Bengal. A dramatic literature for the stage—a sufficient supply of acting plays—was alone wanting to maintain the new taste of the Bengali public. Dino

Bandhu Mitter, Michael M. S. Dutt and the dramatisation of Baboo Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's productions had by this time been thoroughly exhausted, and no new drama or dramatist of merit was to be had—new sensations were out of the question. The old stories were repeated times nauseating. There was a dead fix that was most eloquent through thin houses getting thinner nightly, and the very 'gods' threatened desertion *en masse*. The dire necessity produced the man. There was indeed no need of going out far for him. He was within the precincts of the footlights, the great tragedian himself. He was only modest hitherto, under circumstances which this cry for novelty scattered to the four winds. The Garrick of the Bengal Stage discovered himself as its Talfourd. An ardent admirer of the best English poetry, and having already wooed the Muses himself, he burst forth into dramatic blank verse in Bengali the despair—as the great poet once said himself—of Madhu Sudan Dutt. His first production, *Raban Badh* (the *Fall of Ravan*) was succeeded by other and still nobler births, between short intervals. We have heard Grish never writes his books but simply dictates his verses, and that at times the modern Vyas, in fine frenzy rolling, makes his Ganesh's task quite hopeless of execution. Already his plays number about thirty, plays embracing almost all the episodes of the *Rāmāyan* and the *Mahābhārat* the *Chaitanya-Charitamrita*, and the *Lalit-Bistar*. We hope Babu Ghose will surprise us with something still better now that he has got the man to back his genius and that energy of which he still possesses no little store. We hope the passion which the son of Wealth has conceived for the Drama will, under his manager's wise and fostering care, become developed into genuine love and appreciation which may save him ultimately from a mad career of pleasure—the fatal temptation nowadays of the majority of our rich youngsters, and on which—sad to say—so many of the great Mutty Lal Seal's own race have been wrecked.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—We know you to be an editor fond of phrases and idioms. You insert any correspondence, sense or nonsense in your well-known journal, if it happens to be chaste and ornate English with a certain amount of erudition, which generally the disciples of *Dun-cotus* display in their shallow writings.

Your Santipur correspondent is a man of the above type. He often with such pet phrases as 'man in the moon' 'three tailors in too'ly St.' and 'cat's paw' &c., and hackneyed and stale witticisms finds favor with you. He like a pledged friend often holds out to the view of the public the bright side of the young and green-horned Vice-Chairman and varnishes his weaknesses and frailties enough to become dazzling attributes. At the last election the tutelary God of your correspondent stood for a commissioner-ship. But he was sadly defeated to his utter dejection and disappointment. It is a pity no doubt to see him crest fallen, but the fact goes to prove his utter unpopularity and dire want of discretion with which he exercised his power from his new *munud*. The scandalous jobberies of his administration are still fresh in the memory of the Santiporians. The educated community hide their faces in the very name of that stripling, whose want of judgement and discretion led him to do foul plays at his pleasure. The rate-payers of Santipur, in the last election showed their moral courage by not electing one whom they have taken for an arbitrator* and a varnished noodle. The only alternative is now left for him is to be a nominated commissioner. We do not grudge him the honor he covets? And we heartily wish him success. The other day the able editor of the "Indian Daily News" after scrutinizing his administration, remarked the following :—

"The newly elected commissioners would not elect the obnoxious Babu (Surot Chunder Roy) to the Vice-chairmanship and the Bengal Government would show a poor appreciation of the views of the electors if they nominated a man so conspicuously rejected by the rate-payers. As to the age of the Babu, youth is no offence in itself; but we should say that an older man would be more suitable for the position."

The remarks are as judicious and prudent as they ought to be. If the Bengal Government do not nominate this youngster, Mr. Editor! your able and truthseeking correspondent will die by inches of having nothing to write in eulogy of his deified hero.

With all your faults Mr. Editor! I know you to be a straightforward man which justifies me in hoping that you will not suppress my letter though you will not daintily relish it. I am your old and plain spoken friend,

SOSHI BHUSAN BOSE, (M. A.)

* * A false friend to be sure, and plain spoken by half only—a genuine partizan, in fact, but a foolish one who has not the art to

* See the writer's amending note farther on.—ED. R. & R.

conceal his hate, though he is a Master of Arts! A precious production of the Calcutta University! We have published the letter in all its native glory, not daring to make any changes for fear of being accused of sacrificing its points in league with our Santipore Correspondent. Poor "Master" Bose has not yet learnt to spell. No wonder idiomatic English should be a bugbear to him! But whatever the deficiencies of his education, surely, as a young Kyastha gentleman, he might have learnt better manners at home than causelessly to insult his seniors.

Notwithstanding all his sneers at "chaste and ornate English," (a sad jumble of his own, by the way) we have reason to suspect that our M. A. casts on it the same wistful longing look with which the fox dismissed the grapes overhead as sour. He himself does not disdain to try his pen at a little alliteration, where he shows us and our previous Correspondent up as the "disciples of *Dunscolus* [sic] displaying" erudition.

The above epistle is not a random shot nor a hasty scrawl, but a careful composition and a deliberate offence. Not a blot disfigures it. It is written leisurely in a neat hand---evidently from a previous draught. Hence its orthography and style are of the best in the writer's possession. So jealous is he of his reputation, indeed, so

particular about his points, that he has taken the trouble to post a card by way of a *corrigendum*, to wit:---

"Santipur, the 26th Decem."

Sir,---Kindly read 'arbitrary' for 'arbitrator' in my letter dated the 25th instant.

Yours faithfully,
S. B. Bose."

That letter scarcely improves the situation. Verily, here is a correction in which nothing is corrected!

And is he one of the shining lights of "the educated community" of Santipore?

One parting word to all *poors* (*purs* if you prefer the Hunterian method) and provinces as well as persons. *Reis & Rayyet* is no partizan, whatever may be those whose communications find admittance in it. The journal is always open to correction, even though the offence may have been given by the editor himself. But, of course, people cannot be allowed to insult, like this blessed Bose, on pretence of correcting. We have deliberate views of our own, and on many questions strong opinions, but we have no *Zid* against persons or things or views---no bigotry, no claim to monopoly of truth or wisdom.---Ed., R. & R.

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Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1888.

} No. 306

SEBASTIAN.

A TALE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA.

[Continued from P. 2.]

16

"Three days had passed, and still we sailed
Before a breeze that never failed.
The fourth day, as uprose the sun,
And dewy morning ceased to weep,
The echo of a distant gun
Boomed clearly o'er the silent deep,
Far to the East a sail appeared,
And speedily the stranger neared,
Another gun!—we felt alarmed;
All hurriedly the crew were armed,
And, half in doubt and half in fear,
We gazed as fast the prore drew near.
Another gun!—the foeman's flag!
'Crowd every sail,—we must not lag
My lads when foes, like these are nigh.
Crowd every sail and let us fly.'
'Twas vain, 'twas vain, still nearer came
The foe, and sooth, I felt some shame
To think our Christian vessel ran
Before a prow of Arracan.
On came the foe, began the fray,
And yard to yard the vessels lay;
Fiercely we fought, but still no check,
Comrades and foemen strewed the deck.
Oh! 'tis a horrid thing to be
Thus fighting in the lone wide sea,
With sky and ocean spread around
And nothing but the wave's dull sound,
To answer with its mockery there
The shriek of pain, the dying prayer.
I sank at last, nor know I how
Victory fell upon the prow;
But when my senses came again,
I found myself among the men
Who brought me here in chains where I,
Fair maid, am doubtless doomed to die.
I fear not death—yet would I live
If but for this—that life might give
Of sweet revenge, one glorious hour
To check the treacherous Selim's power,
Retrieve in battle field our name,
And wipe away the madd'ning shame
Thus thrown upon the Portuguese
Once masters of the Indian seas."

17

He ceased: As 'gainst the wall he leant,
Her dark full eye on his was bent,
For as he spoke of fame, felt noble ire,
Bright beamed his features, and his eye was fire,

While in the lofty proudness of his look
Too clear were traced what thoughts his spirit shook.
He leant against the wall with folded arms,
Lost for the moment to the quiet charms
Of Gul-ánar, whose pensive features wore
A sweeter look than they had worn before.

18

"Christian! in truth I mourn thy fate,
For deep and deadly is the hate
That Yeosuff bears thy race;
And well I know 'tis joy to him
To keep thee in this dungeon dim,
Where pleasure has no place;
To let thy broken spirit nurse
Each painful thought and fruitless curse,
And feed upon the torturing thought
Of joys which happier hours brought;
To let no ray of hope be thine,
In grief and loneliness to pine,
Till life wears out, and the frame sinks
Beneath the burst of hope's last links.
I knew him well—myself have been
Too oft the victim of his spleen,
Suffering what has racked this heart,
And almost rent its ties apart;
But morning breaks—thy life is safe,
Unless unseen mischances chafe
The tyrant, and in bloody mood
He breaks upon thy solitude,
There yet is hope—though faint the ray,
And gleaming on a distant day.
There yet is hope—Oh! if my power
Could loose thy chains, the coming hour
Should find thee with a freeman's tread
Wandering where thy wishes led."

19

'The maid is gone—the maid who came
So seraph-like to soothe his woes,
Because he bore a Christian name
And dwelt among Unchristian foes.
She, who when hope's last ray seemed fled
And every joy for ever dead—
Friends far, and foe men nigh—
Grim death, before the eye
Being a sickly dream
Replete with visions dim
Came, like the sudden gleam
Of waters unto him,
Who long hath roamed the desert curst,
And nought to quench his burning thirst,
Came like religion, meek and mild,
At the pillow of a dying child.

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20.

Not now the prisoner thinks on death,
 The lamp of life once more burns bright,
 And love and joy, and the soft breath
 Of hope, awake a new delight.
 Though stern the captive soldier's breast,
 The tender sigh is unrepent.
 What wonder Gul-ânâr should wake
 Each gentle thought and feeling,
 Until his heart for her sweet sake
 At love's bright shrine was kneeling.
 What wonder that her eye, her form,
 Her winning tone, her look of love,
 So like to what we paint above,
 Should touch a soul, racked in the storm
 Of an unquiet life,
 Till grown quite sick of strife !
 What wonder ! love will find its way
 Where harshest feelings hold their sway,
 And, like sweet music, render
 The sternest bosom tender.

21

Each night, when quiet reigned around,
 And slumber prying eyes had bound,
 Would Gul-ânâr with silken tread
 The mazes of the prison thread,
 By more than simple kindness led.
 And there, with fruits and spices sweet,
 The lonely Christian captive greet,
 There stood the maid in that dark cell,
 And in her hand she bore
 A silver lamp, whose radiance fell
 His sun-burnt features o'er !
 Strange was the contrast 'twixt
 That scion of the West,
 Whose glance of love was not unmixt
 With fierceness and unrest,
 And her, the beautiful and mild,
 Sunny India's generous child,
 Whose braided brow and Orient dress
 Robed her in peerless loveliness !

22

Though cheerless that lone cell, the night
 Was passed in somewhat of delight,
 While listening to the tales he told
 Of other lands and other times,
 Wild scenes which travellers behold,
 The wonders of rare trodden clime,
 And oft he spoke in idle mood
 Of danger he himself had wooed—
 Of strife by land, of storms by sea,
 Of many a deed of bravery.
 On such discourse the maiden dwelt,
 And seemed to share the woes he felt.
 Tears for his tears, sighs for his sighs,
 And gazing in each other's eyes.
 And when the hour of parting came
 What tremors filled her tender frame !
 And how she wished the long day o'er
 To bring her to his side once more.

23

"Can this be love?" she asked her heart,
 And sighed unconscious of her lot.
 "Ah ! what will one's own heart impart,
 When that which *is* we hope is *not*.
 Can this be love? Ah ! no, Ah ! no,
 This soul of mine must never know
 Such sinful love, his very name
 Once linked with mine—undying shame—
 Would brand upon my faith and race,
 A stain no virtues could efface.
 I love not—but may soothe his woe
 Although he be my people's foe."

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WE have to correct a statement in our last. The question under the Hindu law, referred to the Full Bench, is whether the paternal uncle's son's son or the brother's daughter's son shall first succeed, not whether the uncle's son's son or brother's son has the precedence.

RAJA Rajendralala Mitra and Professor R. E. Bhandarkar of Bombay, have been admitted as Honorary Members of the American Oriental Society. Dr. Mitra was already a Corresponding Member, but then he was reduced to share that title with a Bengali imposter named Ram Chandra Ghosh.

SIR ALFRED LYALL has been taken in on the India Council in place of Sir Robert Montgomery deceased. We hope Sir Alfred will now learn to use his Indian experience to the advantage of India.

THE Nizam celebrated his birthday at a Durbar by a shower of Mulk-u-Dowla—and Jungships. The Arab Chief Sultan Nawaz Jung has come in for a share. He had been banished from the city for the Arab *éméute* three years ago, and had been pardoned last year. Now he is completely exonerated and—ennobled. A proof, if proof be needed, of the truth of the strength of the Arab interest in the Deccan confessed by the late Salar Jung to Sir Richard Temple, according to the latter's last publication.

THE Madras Magistrate Mr. Scharlieb has punished a boy of 12, for theft of four annas, with one month's jail and six years' reformatory. Is not this gentleman one of the men of light and sweetness down South? Verily, it is a *fierce* light that never was on sea or land, but only beats on the doomed Coromandel Coast, and makes the darkness of the Benighted Presidency visible. The sweetness seems a mere delusion—at best, the sweetness of what is popularly called in Bengali the candied knife. Mr. Scharlieb is certainly very popular among his fellow-citizens. So was Draco. We should not wonder if the stern Magistrate were treated to the same demonstrations of appreciation of the people as greeted the bloody Law-maker.

"BEWARE" of the Engine—of telegrams !—

"A passenger, who took a down train at Allahabad, got into conversation with a fellow traveller who was going to Calcutta on business as an agent of one of the respectable firms at Bombay. The stranger, through amiability of disposition, made friends with the agent, and obtained all necessary information concerning his employer's firm. He left the train at Benares, and availed himself of the next up-train with a ticket for Kānpur. He alighted here, and, putting up in the inn called 'Mogal ki-Serai' went to a Mahajun, to whom he represented himself as the agent of the Bombay firm, and told him that he had to go to Calcutta, but having been robbed on the way was in want of money; if permitted he would obtain Rs. 200 from his master by telegraphic money order to his care. The Mahajun, seeing the agent in distress, and taking into consideration his connexion with the firm at Bombay, acquiesced in his proposal. The pseudo agent immediately telegraphed for the money, which was sent and delivered to the man before the Mahajun by the money-order peon. The man thanked the Mahajun and left his shop immediately. After a lapse of a few days, it was discovered by the firm at Bombay that the real agent was never robbed, nor ordered the amount sent to him a Kānpur. The proprietor of the firm has brought a legal suit against the Mahajun, as an accomplice in the act, who now denies any knowledge of the whereabouts of the stranger, and also that the money was given by the money-order peon on his security."

A BERLIN telegram reports that "the *National Zeitung* states that steps will shortly be taken to remove Prince Ferdinand from the throne of Bulgaria."

ANOTHER Nihilist plot to assassinate the Czar has been discovered at St. Petersburg. The Czar does not therefore go there as intended but continues at Gatschina. Several military officers are implicated in the plot.

THE Supreme Legislative Council meet on Thursday the 19th and not on the 20th as previously announced.

MYSORE has gone, Kapurthala has come.

KING Theebaw is to be removed from Ratnaghiri to the hill fort of Satara.

TOO exploring parties are out to find routes between Assam and Upper Burma—one from the Wuntho country, through Tammu, for Shillong, and the other from Debrugarh *via* the Hunkong Valley to Bhamo.

ON a reference, the Supreme Government have authorized the local Governments to purchase locally in India the explosives required by them.

GUARD BROOKES, serving on the North-Western Railway, is under arrest on the charge of assaulting Mrs. King, a passenger by the train of which he was in charge, and cruelly maltreating her with immoral intent. He is believed to have entered the carriage between Gujrat and Lala Musa.

The weekly remittances to the Home Treasury by Council Bills, from 1st April 1887 to 7th January 1888, amounted to £11,191,300, the Budget estimate for the year 1887-88 being £16,114,000.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Municipal Commissioners have Resolved upon a commercial road connecting the Hooghly Bridge with the Sealdah Railway terminus. The so called Central Road will run through Burrabazar, a thickly populated quarter, covering mostly tenanted lands and huts. The cost of acquisition and construction must be enormous, but they estimate it at half crore. The noticeable principle in the Resolution is that they propose to acquire much more land than is necessary for the work, in order to resell the same at enhanced prices to keep down the cost. This is an advantage to the general body of the ratepayers who are saved the full cost. The principle has been objected to in certain quarters. It has its approvers as well, and the Commissioners passed the Resolution by a large majority. Whatever the propriety of the measure, the owners do not seem to object.

THE days when the Orient brought in its tribute of curiosities to swell the triumph of empire and send gaping and jolting the rabble of Rome, are recalled by a visible token of mutual understanding, respect and good feeling given by the Viceroy to the King of Persia. The Great Mogul of Ind has sent the Shah-in-Shah a barbaric present in the shape of a huge tusker. This fraternal compliment was received with befitting gravity and ceremony. The open Durbar in the open has had the honor of a place in the *Gazette*. The following is taken from the official *Teheran Gazette* of the 12th October:—

"His Excellency, Lord Dufferin, Viceroy of India, sent some time ago a fine male elephant of enormous size, as a present to the Shah. The animal is as big as a mountain; tusks, the size of his have never been seen before; he is truly a royl animal. This great and powerful elephant, besides being naturally very handsome, has very handsome trappings, valued at several thousand toman; there are ornaments, a silver gilt howdah and gorgeous covers and trappings heavily embroidered in gold and silver. The animal reached Teheran a few days ago, and on the 4th instant was presented to His Majesty in the Bagh-i-Maidan by Mr. Nicolson, the English *Charge d' Affaires* at the Court of Persia. His Majesty, together with his attendants, inspected the elephant, and expressed himself delighted and very much pleased with the noble present."

The speech of the British Representative in presenting "a native of India" and His Majesty's truly Persian reply, are duly recorded. According to a Teheran correspondent, the Shah "was really very much pleased, and told Mr. Nicolson besides that he had not words enough to express the pleasure he felt, and that he really meant three times as much as he had said."

By sports like these are all their cares beguiled,
The sports of children satisfy the child.

The curiosities and arts of India have always been appreciated at the courts of High Asia, which has been civilised by Hindu influence, almost as much as by a Semitic religion and Greek philosophy. History tells us not only of the spoliation, by invader after invader, of the gold and silver and precious gems and stuffs and effects of Hindostan, but also of the artists and artizans and manufacturers carried *en masse* by Afghan and Iranian and Turanian conqueror. A Timur or a Nadir would have preferred to capture

the *Pheelkhana* of Delhi and lead away the grand beasts across the Indus home to receiving a present. For Nasiruddin himself a park of artillery ought to be more welcome than all the elephants in India. But what is to be expected of a monarch who not only states like the most innocent of the profane vulgar at the *chef d'œuvres* of Madame Tussaud but faithfully diarises them for publication.

THE Elephant is a rather ugly customer. He frequently proves a disaster to his very friends, as the Indian Raja Porus and the African General Hannibal discovered too late. In Persia, he is like a whale out of the sea. We read:—

"The 24th was the anniversary of the Shah's birthday, and the elephant was brought in state to the salam, or durbar, as a tamasha for the people. The animal was not in good humour. Persian keepers, who are to replace the Indians that brought him from India, did not know his ways; at last he became obstreperous, threw a man into a tank and charged the crowd. Some men got injured, a couple were pinned against a brick wall, fortunately between the tusks, but one of the tusks was broken against the wall. The piece of tusk is now in the museum, ideas of riveting it to the stump having been given up."

Yes, His Elephantine Majesty is every inch a king, even as his great human fellow-countryman Porus, who even in captivity expected to be treated according to his rank rather than to his chances of the hour. Whether he be confined or at large—in the park of an Indian prince or in the gardens of Nature, in the London "Zoo" or in the menagerie of Barnum, the showman, it is all the same with this truly sovereign beast. He must be dealt with with all due deference. He brooks no trifling. He is not irascible; he has too great a sense of dignity and propriety for that. But beware of his losing temper! His rage is truly Achillean.

THE latest indigenous stupidity:—

"An Association called the Aryan Patriotic Association has just been founded at Bareilly, of which Rai Bishen Lal is the president. Its objects are to create and promote Indian unity and feelings of universal brotherhood and patriotism throughout the members of all the branches of Aryan Patriotic Associations throughout India; to encourage national literature, and its diffusion among the masses; to publish national journals or tracts in the vernacular languages; to indicate the ways of the Government to the people at large, through the vernacular press and popular lectures; to promote real education—moral, physical, and religious; to represent the grievances of the people to the Government, and make suggestions; to introduce gradually and harmoniously, social reforms."

That goes by a great length beyond the *National* Mahomedan movement nearer home. It never struck these innocents that their programme is a contradiction in terms, as their very name is an offence against good sense and taste.

IN the Pandits' enthusiasm for the language of classical Hellas—enthusiasm sure to be drained to the dregs by non-Pandits—the legitimate claims of the living speech of the Greeks are apt to be ignored. In fact, modern Greek suffers, like Bengali, from the extravagance of the learned and the pedantry of the unlearned, by being pitted against its venerated finished prototype. Otherwise, like the Bengali, it is a noble instrument of thought, quite worthy of its old mother the classical Greek, as the Bengali is worthy of the ancient Sanskrit. It is not only copious and musical, but also boasts a respectable literature. Several of the poets of Western Europe have been interested in it and found in it comfort and pleasure. Byron rendered some of its shorter pieces. Mrs. Browning, poet by her own right as well as the consort of the profoundest poet of our day, has a fine appreciative essay on the modern Greek masters of song. Lately, a great addition has been made to the volume and quality of the modern Greek library by the translation of the greatest English epic. This literary feat has been accomplished by a native Greek, M. Kasdagh. He dedicates his version to Her Majesty, the Queen and Sovereign of Milton's countrymen.

If the British will not bridge their Channel, their good neighbours, the French, will do it for them. No sooner had Sir Edward Watkin's scheme of a tunnel under the Channel been abandoned than they took up the question in right earnest; for, of course, they were not going to embrace the carcass of the dead English project. They entered upon the subject on independent lines and they have now matured a new plan of their own. Resting on concrete piers, with a height of 40 metres, so as to enable the largest vessels to pass under it, it is proposed to build an iron bridge. It is to start from Cran-aux-Œufs, south of Cape Grisnez, and run in a straight line across the Channel to Folkestone. This is not the shortest cut, but the sea there is least deep.

A DEEPLY interesting, if not unique, case of philanthropic madness, is told by the Paris correspondent of the *Morning Advertiser*. Eugene Orbecchi was a young engineer of great humanity. After a course of earnest well-doing of a miscellaneous character, he at last stumbled on his rôle—the reclamation of fallen women. He was easily persuaded that they were as earnest and anxious in the matter as he himself and he bravely fought the facts which contradicted him. His last case was a Magdalene named Marguerite Mathis. Her conversion to virtue was as remarkable as that of her ancestors to the Church. He preached and conquered. She had only been looking out for the good Samaritan to turn a new leaf. She was ready to go into furnished lodgings and receive a dowry and promise to be good. He fed her and housed her as a lady and provided for her future, and she seemed as good as her word. Thus it went for a few days, perhaps weeks. Orbecchi, warned as he had been by previous disappointments in succession, at length felt himself secure in his *protégé*. He had at last come upon the right stuff of penitent humanity. Vain deluding joys! Woman will be out, and wily Marguerite was out. Orbecchi accidentally discovered her continuing her old life of guilty pleasure. The discovery scarcely disconcerted Marguerite who only cursed her carelessness, but Orbecchi flew into fury and stabbed her—the doubly, trebly fallen! He was tried, but the jury took the true view of the matter and saved him. There is no saving the doomed. Such was Orbecchi. The discovery that she whom he regarded as the reclaimed was no better than she had been, the knowledge that her penitence was a perfidy—a sham and a shame—went to his very soul. It was too much. He could not stand it. The more so that life had lost all its charm for him. The last hope against hope of usefulness to which he clung was blighted. Othello's occupation was gone. Three days after, he was found dead at a hotel, dead by self-administered chloroform.

UNDER the head of Miserly Magnificence, we read in the *Advocate of India* :—

"Not frequently a man is encountered who is a moral paradox. The late Marquis of Westminster was such a man. Liberal in large affairs, he was penurious in trifles. He wore shabby clothes, carried a cotton umbrella, saved bits of paper and twine, picked up pins, and gave away thousands of pounds."

That is, the Duke was a *dristi-kripan*, as we would say in Bengali. The English, that Great Annexander among languages, rich as it is in its resources, is not rich enough. It wants a whole host of vocables of the sort common in the despised Bengali. *Dristikripan* literally is *sight-miser*, meaning, a man who may be liberal enough or even extravagant or a very prodigal but who is anxious about trifles, who is afraid of a drain at the necessity of the most insignificant or common outlay, who picks and treasures up old nails and saves rotten odds and ends, who will haggle over a six-pence in a large bargain but may, all the same, allow him self to be easily and habitually robbed. Such moral contradictions are not so rare as some seem to imagine. We have numberless instances in this country. To avoid the living, we believe Doolle Sugar and Muttu Lal Seal belonged to this type. They were reckoned misers in the community, yet how large-hearted were they in reality! how vast their benefactions! what thousands they befriended in difficulty! what numbers they supported! Each of them maintained an alms house, where whoever applied was fed.

"He once drew a cheque for thirty thousand pounds for a benevolent object, but the donor's name was never published, and his own son, the present Duke of Westminster, never knew for what purpose the cheque had been drawn."

A clergyman, who had been to London to consult a doctor, was dining with the Marquis.

"What did the doctor advise?" asked the nobleman.

"Too absurd, my lord! Horse exercise."

"Then why don't you take it?"

"Because I have not a horse, and can't afford to buy one."

"Have you a stable and a paddock?"

"Yes, my lord."

"Then I will give you a horse."

The next day a groom rode up to the house, leading a fine horse. The grateful parson offered the man a half-sovereign, but the groom declined to take more than sixpence, saying that it would be as much as his situation was worth. He could not accept more. "But, please, sir," he added, "give me twopence for the turnpike gate." His lordship specially told me to be sure and ask for the twopence."

May the Lord reward the good Duke! for weak vain man could scarcely appreciate him! Such a miser, if miser such a one can be called, is worth more than vast numbers of your heartless wasters.

THERE is a limit to every thing, as there is a season and place for it and the limits of the extravagances of "society" must be reckoned to be reached when the doctors, who are also men of the world and of "society," interfere. In this view, the article in the *British Medical Journal* on the absurd habits of the day, is significant. The writer ridicules the "modern society hand-shake." For anything that we care, he is welcome to his game if he would spare us that last compound vocable which is too suggestive of the participial form in vogue among our countrymen in certain parts of Bengal. He assails "society" with the weapons of science, or at least overwhelms it with scientific jargon, giving an anatomical description of the modes. But the provocation comes from the other side. Fashion now-a-days simulates ill-health and disease. This is how one class of exquisites of the Period "keep touch" with those they make-believe to salute :—

"The right scapula is raised and brought forward, the humerus being extended in nearly a horizontal line, and somewhat adducted, while the forearm is semipronated and allowed to hang nerveless and inert; a little oscillatory movement is imparted to the arm, but no grasp is attempted."

When the greeting parties are birds of the same feather, the other man of course returns the compliment in the same fashion, and their fingers touch. But the action is meaningless. The soul is not called into play. The movement is like that of a man suffering from hemiplegia, and, according to the writer, more awkward and graceless, and quite as indicative of loss of brain power. Nor is this all.

"Some of the attitudes of certain young men and women strongly resemble those we see in extreme exhaustion, hysteria, and St. Vitus' dance. Thus we may mention as examples :—Heads inclined to one side, a symmetrical posture of the spine, hands ill-balanced and contracted in the palm, with the fingers bent backwards. Ladies in the drawing-room will sometimes assume postures the very counterpart of those in chorea, while a languishing mode is thought to indicate esthetic refinement. What shall we say about the habit of dressing the hair so as to cover the forehead, the bulwark of the brain; and masking all expression in the hands which should be exponents of the mental state by perpetually carrying an opera hat, fan, or flowers. We might further dwell on a cultivated monotonous drawl of voice, with falsetto pitch, with absence of expression, power, and energy in all the movements, the eyes being half-open, and not directed towards the person addressed. A certain school of modern art seems to lend much favour to this sort of thing. It has been said that a man should dress with care and attention, for the first impression made on meeting a stranger is to some degree produced by dress; to a much greater extent does the carriage and the mode of salute make an impression—the method should be manly. The salute should indicate the impression produced by the meeting; of course it should be under control—never too cold or too effusive—but that does not justify a purely artificial method, meaning nothing. Shaking hands is often used as a pledge of contract, but then it must express the mental state."

That account is a settler. And it is not born of Baboo malice or Baboo ignorance. It is not a native Indian caricature of the manners of the Whitemen. Its good faith cannot be questioned, and it has the stamp of professional accuracy on it.

THERE is a strong family likeness among princes throughout the globe. Their virtues and vices are the same all the world over. It will be remembered that there was a complaint against His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, for not returning, while cruising along the French coast, the salute fired from a French battery. This was not only an obvious breach of international civility but a breach of the Queen's Regulation for the Navy. Enquiry showed that the charge was true. But the omission to fire originated in no wilful desire to put a slight on the French. It was wholly accidental. It appears that the Royal Duke is a sleeping character, like the Fat Boy in *Pickwick*. He is always ready for a nap, in season and out of season, having apparently cultivated his gift to the utmost. Perhaps, the Prince's choice of a profession was determined by his passion for sleep. The monotone of the lonely sea disposes the most restless spirits to somnolence. It is only in the vasty deep on board a man-of-war in time of peace that there are unlimited opportunities for dosing and day-dreaming. It is a capital place for going to sleep in without fear of being disturbed—just the place for princely sleepers! The waves rock the sleeper as in a cradle, as well as swell the grand chorus of royal snoring. By dint of constant practice, the dear Prince has now attained perfection. On a recent occasion, he was sailing past the French coast in a state of unconsciousness, when a battery on land, recognising the Queen's Fleet, fired the usual compliment, but the greeting was not returned. And why not? Not that the whole crew and officers were all asleep, but who could dare to rouse a royal Prince to receive orders? Doubtless, the officer in command during the royal siesta was competent to carry out the Code of Navy Regulations in such a

simple matter of courtesy to an ally of Great Britain, but then the Captain was afraid of disturbing by his fire the Prince's slumber. The royal Captain thought it a smaller matter to insult the French nation. When, however, the French Ambassador complained to the British Foreign Office, the matter appeared more serious and explanation was called for from the royal sailor. Thereupon, a neat little "white lie" was enacted. The Prince himself, it is said, quietly threw into the sea at night his salute gun in order to make a plausible excuse for the omission of the salute, namely, that in the hurry of leaving the vessel he had forgotten to take its salute gun.

That incident has wider signification than may be imagined. But we leave to others to draw it—till another opportunity.

THE Convocation of the Calcutta University came off this afternoon. We were not present, but missed nothing. Even our Girton "gals" in high feather—the prime attraction—we bowed to from our sanctum as we espied them driving to the Latin Quarter. For, the rest of the business was a sad pantomime. His Excellency the Chancellor presided, but delivered no discourse beyond a few words in welcome of the girl-graduates. The Vice-Chancellor delivered the formal oration, which was quite inaudible to the audience—a not uncommon fate for speakers and hearers in the Senate House. We wish Sir Comer Petheram might be impelled to take steps towards improving the acoustic properties of the place.

THE new Fellows—good, bad and indifferent—of the Calcutta University, are—

J. Wood Mason, Esq.; Surgeon-Major A. Crombie, M.D.; J. H. Gilliland, Esq., B.A.; Baboo Durga Mohan Das; W. H. Jobbins, Esq.; Baboo Hara Prasad Sastri, M.A.; Moulvie Ahmad; Baboo Umesh Chandra Dutt, B.A.; and Baboo Rajani Nath Roy, M.A.

Mr. Wood-Mason's name is a welcome addition to the Senate, and the only wonder is that he has been so long in reaching this just recognition of his attainments in learning and his long service in the temple of science. Indeed, we never thought that he was not one of the governing body of the University. Perhaps, we shall awake one morning to learn that he was not one of even the Honorary Magistrates of the town. We know he is not one of the Municipal Corporation, but a fitter man, by habits of business and by continual residence in town and almost next door to the office of the Corporation, to say nothing of intellectual eminence, does not exist. Perhaps, he is not sufficiently known to the natives who form the bulk of the electorate to seek their suffrages with any chance. In that case, the Government might appoint him with advantage to the public interests.

We are glad to see Pandit Haraprasad Sastri's claims recognised.

It will lead to a considerable quieting of public criticism to learn that the latest Mahomedan Don is not the gentleman of that name possessed of municipal fame of a certain description, but the Arabic and Persian Professor in the Presidency College and the son of that distinguished and erudite scholar the late Maulvi Muhammad Waji, Chief Professor of the Calcutta Arabic.

MR. PEACOCK takes furlough for 20 months and Mr. MacDonnell for 2 months and 13 days. Mr. W. Mackworth Young from the Punjab has taken over charge of the Home Secretariat of the Government of India. This is the officer who is understood to have headed the protest of the Punjab officials against a certain able officer being elevated to the Satrapy of the Land of the Five Waters. He comes with a reputation for ability.

Sir Charles Turner leaves India once more for the last time, with the tolerable good wishes of officocracy. He was not so bad as he seemed at the earlier stages of the Public Service Commission, when his examination of vested pretensions was wont to be rather searching. Latterly, he went clean over to the majority—of the defenders of privilege.

IN another column will be found a smartly written communication on the results at Santipore in the late municipal elections. We do not despise parochial politics; in the present state of the country in especial they are of peculiar interest in the education of the country. But we cannot afford the space for chronicling the doings in all the municipalities, and we are afraid they would be regarded as too much

of a good thing by the generality of our readers. The present letter presents a good sample. Santipore is one of the largest of our country towns—the largest in Lower Bengal of those which are not official centres. It has the unenviable distinction of being on the black list of the Moffusil Municipal Act, being like Uttarpur notoriously torn by factious feuds.

Our Santipore Correspondent ends with raising a general question. He assails our *apologia* for canvassing at elections and quotes high authority against us. We are not to be terrified into surrender of our position by the apparition of any giant, intellectual or anatomical. Ours was no assertion, but argument, we gave a reason for the faith in us—a reason that remains untouched by the quotation. And we could mention others. Indeed, "An Onlooker" has strangely missed the drift of our contention in favor of legitimate canvassing, for, of course, there are canvassing and canvassing. The elective system would be at the mercy of the unscrupulous if all personal application and explanation to voters were forbidden. The strangest results might well be apprehended. In India, a very deadlock might ensue.

We must warn our clever correspondent against the fascination of giants who are consummate statesmen. Does he seriously believe that his giant of noble sentiments does not canvass himself? The passage quoted seems to us a grand stroke in the Fine Art of electioneering. It might deceive the unwary and help his own agents and friends—the "consummate" one!

We do not wonder at Babu Sarat Chandra's defeat. It need not be due to deficiency in canvassing. There is no surer road to unpopularity than to serve in a position of command or vantage.

BOMBAY soon expects to see the beginning of her scheme of technical education as a *fait accompli*. Sir Dinshaw Manockji Petit, the new Native Member of the Viceregal Legislative Council from Bombay, has made another of his truly princely benefactions. He has given property to the value of three lacs for a "local habitation" for the Technical Institute. Such an act of munificence might last any man a long time, but Sir Dinshaw is not, like others, daunted by his own good deeds, colossal as they are and appearing as they do in quick succession. In the same breath, he has given a lac and a twenty thousand in aid of a hospital. These were the little "extra jobs" he executed—the six pennies he put in the poor box—before he left his city. There is not only no unseemly fuss, there is no self-consciousness. The thing is done in a quiet business-like way, its very habituality precluding attitudinising. Noise is neither made nor sought for. There is no call for *Kudos*. Another man in his situation might have posed as a Caesar, till the people were provoked to cry—

Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world
Like a Colossus; and we petty men
Walk under his huge legs, and peep about
To find ourselves dishonourable graves!

But this Colossus of Charity in his meek unconcern actually dwarfs himself in the operation. He minimises the necessary demand on the attention of the public. Both his latest great gifts are acknowledged by the Government of Bombay in the same *Gazette*.

Well may the *Advocate of India* say that it is only in Bombay that such munificence is to be found!

THE Fifteenth Annual Report of the Howrah People's Association for 1886-87 shows more energy in its members than in those of many a high-sounding Calcutta institution of its kind. The committee have been busy with many important questions of the hour, local, provincial and imperial. The fact of a single member, Baboo Hari Mohun Bose, the Vice-President, having paid the cost of the casket for the Jubilee address, betrays no little respect for his country in the Baboo. But perhaps the best thing in the whole Report—which, by the way, might be better written—is the not unenviable cash balance of Rs. 143-6-15gds. for a trans-Hooghly Amateur political club.

By a notice posted up in the medical school at Leeds, the students were requested to assemble at the Young Men's Christian Association Rooms for a discussion of a proposal for them to become members of the Association. Nearly a hundred young men attended. The proposition was no sooner brought forward than most of them expressed

loud symptoms of disapprobation. Soon the scene became lively. There was smoking and shouting and letting off of crackers. The assembly was uproarious beyond description. At last, some order was evolved by the leaders, and they left the hall, and marched in procession to Victoria Square. There, in front of the Town Hall, in the midst of a large crowd, one of the un-Christian medical young men tried a mock oration beginning, "Fellow-brethren and unemployed!" Then "our Boys" adjourned to the nearest public-house, to raise their jaded spirits up by pouring spirits down their gullets. Again, the procession through the streets was resumed. Thus they perambulated the streets of the whole town, vigorously singing the well-known comic song "Bally-hooly," varying their exertions by cheering any prominent townsman they met with or robbing any unfortunate passer according to fancy. Nor was this all. They continually revived themselves at every gin-shop at the expense of the publicans doubtless. They threw into the gutter the poor sandwich-men whom they encountered on the way. Thus, for full two hours the whole town was kept in a state of noise and uproar, to the trepidity of the peaceable and not without the anxiety of the authorities.

Talk of the want of discipline of Indian schools and of the growing rudeness of native students after that!

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1888.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN'S DEBUT.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN'S first Durbar will be memorable for his frank declaration of a noble policy. The new Lieutenant-Governor of Upper India means decidedly well by his people. And small wonder is it to any one who remembers the secret political history of the last few years. Author of the remarkable tractate, "If it is Real—What does it mean?" in which he expounded, in the columns of the *Pioneer*, the significance of Lord Ripon's triumphant progress, as of the recent no less elaborate, able and generous defence, in the same paper, of the policy and the proceedings of the Public Service Commission, his kindly words are almost a matter of course, for his liberal views are known. They are nonetheless welcome or valuable. Indeed, the fear was that, with his elevation, he might, like many another, turn his back on his former principles and his old loves. The tension of suspense is determined; he has made his choice in his new sphere, and has made his deliverance. He has declared his policy and no mistake. Expounder of the New Era, he bids fair to prove the Man of the New Era in his new sphere of work. The territory he has been chosen to rule, has a glorious future before it, and only wants fostering aid to win its destiny. Upper India is to be congratulated on the luck which gives it such a satrap. The task before him is not a little arduous. In inaugurating a progressive policy, the successor of a Couper and a Lyall will have much to do, and still more to undo. The budding aspirations of the people deserve encouragement and not repression. Sir Auckland's first Durbar has already revived hope. May he go on in the way he has begun.

There was a ring of candour in Sir Auckland's speech which was highly reassuring. "I shall al-

ways be glad," he said, "to avail myself of opportunities of personal intercourse with you, knowing as I do how important it is to me to keep myself fully informed of your views and desires, and being equally assured that the Natives of India appreciate nothing more than freedom of access to officials, and reasonable facilities of communication with them. So that on that point you will feel no apprehension and I shall be careful to let my views on this subject be made known to the several officers under me." Freedom of access to the governing class has, indeed, its use as well as its abuse, but wary officials with experience and discernment may well be trusted to deal with ambitious tuft-hunters as they deserve. With this reservation, free intercourse between officials and the people cannot but prove an efficient instrument of good government.

The political necessity of more and more enlisting the honorary services of able and public-spirited non-officials in the task of administration, was set forth with truth and unreserve. "The business of administration in India," said Sir Auckland, "becomes more complex as the years pass, and the wants of the country grow more numerous. It is impossible for the Government, unaided by the people, either to know or to supply all these wants; and it is to the co-operation of the people in the administration of certain branches of public business that the Government must look, to enable it at present to deal successfully with its difficulties. The assistance which may be thus rendered to the Government has a two-fold advantage; it enables the Government to work more efficiently and it trains those who assist it in those habits of exertion, of self-discipline and of interesting themselves in the general welfare which lie at the root of all progress and improvement." This is the true *raison d'être* of Lord Ripon's scheme of Local-Self-Government. It is the necessity of the Government which makes the opportunity of political education for the people. Officials wedded to the old "benevolent despotism" are not, indeed, quick enough to seize its true import, and of such officials, Sir Auckland speaks in almost the same terms which we remember to have read in his Essay in the *Pioneer* referred to. "It may be," he says, "that the officers of the Government themselves, however willing, have been trained on former lines and are not familiar with the methods necessary to give practical effect to modifications in the system with which they have been hitherto familiar; there may not always be on their part the patience necessary; there may be sometimes, with all possible loyalty, a doubt as to the efficiency or utility of the institutions themselves.....I will frankly say that if you will exert yourselves to work the Boards as a real and effective machinery, I will, on the other hand, do all in my power to remove obstacles from your way and to give you every assistance. I have every interest in doing so; for, as I have said, I require your assistance. You have no less interest, on the other hand, on your part, in assisting me, for the habit of consulting and of working together to the common good, of laying aside to that end unworthy jealousies and inherited animosities, of exercising forbearance, and of endeavouring to understand the points of view of those who are associated with us in business, is essential to the formation of qualities without the possession of which it is idle to aspire to participation in the conduct of public affairs on any considerable scale." The heavy responsibility attaching to our countrymen in connection with their

Holloway's Pills.—Changes of temperature and weather frequently upset persons who are most careful of their health, and particular in their diet. These corrective, purifying and gentle aperient Pills are the best remedy for all defective action of the digestive organs. They augment the appetite, strengthen the stomach, correct biliousness, and carry off all that is noxious from the system. Holloway's Pills are composed of rare balsams, unmixed with baser matter, and on that account are peculiarly well adapted for the young, delicate, and aged. As this priceless medicine has gained fame in the past, so will it preserve it in the future by its renovating and invigorating qualities, and the impossibility of its doing harm.

part in the scheme of Local-Self-Government, could not be brought home to them with greater force or in a clearer manner. The above words contain a lesson which they should do well to learn and practise. On their successful acquittal in this trial, depend issues of vital moment to the future of the country. They must, however, prove their fitness in small things before they stretch forward their hands for greater. "You should fix your attention on matters falling within the legitimate scope of your action and not waste it in the discussion of more ambitious schemes, the carrying out of which requires the collective action, and that practical handling of affairs which is the result of a long and laborious training in the conduct of public business, such as you have scarcely even commenced to impose on yourselves. I think that the more you familiarise yourselves with the practice of administration in the branches in which your cooperation is asked, the more reasons you will find for believing that the business of Self-Government on any more ambitious scale requires the use of qualities which can only be acquired like other powers by graduating in lower classes." These lower classes are furnished to our hand in the Local and Municipal Boards. By not scorning to attend to the details of rural and urban administration, valuable business habits and knowledge will be acquired which will prove of essential service in the near future when the people expect to be more largely associated in the administration of their country. Sir Auckland points out the way, and it is for the people to follow it.

MORAL DISCIPLINE IN SCHOOLS.

THE Government of India has issued an elaborate circular letter to all Local Governments and Administrations, on the subject of discipline and moral and religious training in schools and colleges. The letter sets out with the admission that, apart from the discussion of the subject by the Education Commission, the question of discipline in public schools and colleges has not hitherto received any comprehensive consideration. It is, however, no omission for which any blame attaches to any body. "It is only within comparatively recent times," it is explained, "that the Government has come to deal with public instruction on the present wide scale, its first efforts having been directed more towards supplying a course of literary instruction for a few students of exceptional ability than towards the wholesale dissemination of Western learning. It thus came to pass that the want of a standard of discipline in our Indian public schools and colleges was not at first felt, it became manifest only in more recent years with the ever growing demand for education according to European principles and of a purely secular character." The adequacy of this explanation is, however, open to question. The pioneers of English education in this country never lost sight of the importance of discipline, and the personal experience of educated Indians of a former generation living at this day, will attest to the sufficiency of the discipline, which, without degenerating into severity, used to be maintained while they were at school. The falling off in discipline is a fact of recent occurrence, and must be due to the operation of influences which have come into play in comparatively recent times. There is no denying, however, the fact itself, although it is apt to be exaggerated, and to lead to inferences, which, on a closer examination, it will not bear. Much in the demeanour of the present generation of students,

which is justly felt to be offensive, may be mere faults of manner, rather anything more serious—apparent blemishes without being symptomatic of anything wrong at the core. We have ourselves been often vexed and annoyed with what looked like the want of proper modesty and respectfulness in our young hopefuls, and sometimes set to accounting for the phenomenon. On coming to close quarters, however, with the offenders, and cultivating them, the result has almost invariably been to show that the evil had no deep moral origin—that whatever objection might be taken to the arrogant airs—the look of affront—the rudeness in the port—and whatever impatience might be felt with them, they were mere indications of bad breeding, rather than of a refractory spirit or any bad organic lesion of the heart. Against these faults of manner must, on the other hand in all fairness, be set those intrinsic moral excellences of the rising generation for which they do not appear to receive the credit to which they are entitled—their superior courage, love of truth, independence, and patriotic sentiment. These are essential virtues which more than counterbalance any external failings, which, one might charitably hope, were but a temporary phase, sure to pass away under influences of the right sort. The faults of manner have, no doubt, gone too long, without let or hindrance, and, although the education authorities have had their attention drawn to the matter, and from time to time taken some measures by way of a remedy, those measures have not either been of a sustained character, or they were too severe or too complicated for practical operation.

The need of a corrective is thus set forth in the above letter. "It cannot be denied that the general extension in India of education on these principles [according to European principles and of a purely secular character] has in some measure resulted in the growth of tendencies unfavorable to discipline and favorable to irreverence in the rising generation. Such tendencies are probably inseparable from that emancipation of thought which is one of the most noticeable results of our educational system. But though inevitable under the circumstances of this country, they are nevertheless, it will be admitted, tendencies which need control and direction so far as control and direction can be supplied by a judicious system of scholastic discipline and of such moral training as our policy of strict neutrality in religious matters enables us to supply."

The Government circular then proceeds to discuss the practical bearings of the subject. The standard of discipline proposed to be aimed at, is the English standard, for reasons which will be admitted on all hands. "Indigenous education," it is rightly observed, "furnishes no traditions which can be referred to for guidance in such matters. In the indigenous schools of early India, grotesque and ill-proportioned punishments established relations between teachers and pupils which were wanting in dignity; while in Sanskrit seminaries the question of discipline did not in practice arise owing to the sacred character of the writings that were studied, the veneration for teachers which they inculcated, and the acts of submission and reverence that were exacted in all the relations of pupil to teacher."

The English standard of discipline remains therefore the only one for practical guidance. But the next question is, whether it should be adopted in entirety, or with suitable adaptations. It is notably severe, but the Government is confident of its suc-

cessful application. The views of the Government of India on this point, setting forth the advantages which are derived from a strict system of discipline are important enough to be quoted *in extenso* :—

"There is no reason to fear that the English standard of discipline will be found deterrent by its severity. English education is now established on so firm a basis in India, and its advantages as leading to a career in life are so generally recognized, that the Government can look confidently for support in introducing reforms, which have for their object the elevation of the tone of colleges and schools and the training of the present generation of students to those habits of self-respect which find expression in submission to authority, temperate language, and deference to the judgment of those older than themselves. The English public schools and universities aim, not merely at training the faculties of men for the acquisition of knowledge, but also at producing a distinct type of character well adapted for the uses of practical life. In various ways they attempt to teach practical wisdom, and there is every reason to expect that a closer approximation to their methods of education may result in fitting the members of similar institutions in India to take a useful part in social business of all kinds. Self-reliance can only spring from self-control, and self-control can be best taught by a system which looks beyond mere knowledge, and demands from those who come under it the exercise of their powers of moral judgment and of steady co-operation towards the higher aims of the institution to which they belong."

After referring to the remarks made by the Education Commission upon the subject of discipline and of moral training in schools, the Government proceeds to make some practical suggestions for meeting the object in view. Those suggestions are :—

- (1) The provision of efficient training schools and colleges for teachers, and the employment, as teachers, only of those who have given satisfaction during a course of training ;
- (2) The extension of a system of teaching having a direct bearing upon personal conduct ;
- (3) The repression of breaches of discipline in accordance with certain well-defined rules ;
- (4) The introduction of conduct registers ;
- (5) The extension of the hostel or boarding-house system to the fullest extent that the public finances or private liberality will permit ;
- (6) The introduction of a system of monitors to be made responsible for the conduct of the scholars while in and as far as possible while out of school ;
- (7) The exclusion from school of boys who have not reached a certain class by a certain age.

The above suggestions are offered by way of a supplement to those which have been made by the Education Commission, and which are, we believe, partially in operation. They do not pretend to be exhaustive, and the Local Governments and Administrations are invited to communicate their opinions on the subject. Having left ourselves little space, we shall resume the discussion of the question in another issue, contenting ourself for the present with just a word of warning, namely, that the distorted views which are apt to be taken of the mere demeanour and attitude of the student population, do not betray us into any retrograde movement.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

OUR "COUNCILMEN."

I desire to say a word or two in reference to the wanton and reckless manner in which *Anti-Humbag* has dragged the names of some of our notabilities, through mire belched out from the inner depths of his consciousness. It is curious, and somewhat in explicable that, notwithstanding your hesitation to publish the communication for the very good reason that you hate "personalities" and deprecate "violence of speech as feeble and degrading," you have been led (apparently through inadvertence or an error of judgment) to allow your Correspondent to throw dirt at Raja Doorga Churn Law. I certainly do not object to a or any free and fair discussion of men and measures, public of course, or to your ruling that "what gentlemen may openly talk about is publishable and might be wholesome," but when sheer "insult," without a shadow of reason or rhyme, is the object aimed at, it is your duty no less common civility on your part "to eliminate the whole of the objectionable element," and not to permit a stray passage like the following to disfigure your really esteemed hebdomadal. I must ask you to explain what the writer really means by these lines "the Bania Raja, with brass enough in his head to make a tea-kettle, whose memorable speech in support of the Ilbert Bill strongly tempted me to look towards his feet to ascertain whether he was the gentleman whose name should not be mentioned to ears polite." If the Bania Raja supported the Ilbert Bill what offence did he commit to render himself liable to be daubed as the very

incarnation of the cloven-footed? The Raja was in the Legislative Council only at the far end of the season, when the Ilbert Bill was introduced, if I recollect aright, at the instance of the Maha Raja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore, to whom the Viceroy Lord Ripon was under a promise that an early opportunity would be taken to remove the hideous blot from the Criminal Procedure. It was at this moment, and not while the Bill was in its height or fury and had turned the heads of all silly insensate Englishmen, that Babu Doorga Churn (since Raja) spoke a few words which your correspondent admits were in favor of the Bill. If so, then where was the offence that smells so rank to your correspondent? He is evidently in a bantering vein, but satire, without wit or point, is impertinence, pure and simple. I could understand the denunciation heaped on the head of Maharaja Jotendra Mohun Tagore for his sheepish acquiescence to the gagging of the Vernacular Press, but I fail to comprehend what the deuce has Raja Doorga Churn committed by doing his duty, *i. e.*, in approving of the measure in its incipient stage? Is it for that or is it because he happened to be a member of the Supreme Legislative Council that this missile has been thrown at him? I suspect it is only for the latter, as Anti-Humbag evidently could not contain his bile at the sight of a Bania (although the Rothschild of Calcutta, Banias often and anon are Rothschilds) seated in the highest council of the country. Anti-Humbag only betrays his pitiable ignorance of the man when he reckons him among those who raised themselves by brass. Doorga Churn never knew what brass is. A more frank, open-hearted, outspoken, thoroughly straightforward and honest soul breathes not amongst the natives. He certainly lacks the wily ways and cunning diplomacy of a Cossimbazar usher to forge gold from brass, and yet Anti-Humbag puts that famous eight-metalled hero in the category of the illustrious constellations that ever shone in the Legislative firmament! I wonder why Anti-Humbag omitted the name of the eminent Librarian, another member of the seven blind Mittra *doll* that ever afflicted or still afflicts the town. Was he not a smart writer, a racy novelist, and an impromptu speaker? Why? Is it because he was a failure? But Anti-Humbag's appreciation of councilmen is blazingly illustrated by the omission of a really distinguished name that of Dinkar Rao. Much as I uphold Anti-Humbag's sentiments in regard to the suggested improvement of the present constitution of the Councils, I cannot, I must with shame and disappointment own, approve of the manner in which he has, and in which you have allowed him, dragged the name of a really good man whose only fault has been that he has achieved greatness, and that he was not born great nor has had greatness thrust on him.

One word more, and I have done. Sir Maharaja Jotendra Mohun Tagore is no doubt "mealy-mouthed and amiable," but is not that an accomplishment for which he should be praised? As to his connection with the Gagging Act, I think he has made ample amends if not a complete *amende honorable* in having got Lord Ripon to introduce the thin end of the wedge into the black Act. Had it not been for the great Willy at Home the Ilbert Bill would have driven its coach through the rampant stony race-antagonist Anglo-Saxonism of the day. Another Lord Ripon, and we shall be rid of the monstrous incubus that is sucking the blood of our country!

ANTIBORE.

26th December, 1887.

THE 2ND GENERAL ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS AT SANTIPUR.

Verily, the British Government is a leveller, and the elective franchise, which you succeeded, by extraordinary exertion and against fearful odds, in procuring for the metropolis in '76 and which was extended to the mofussil Municipalities in '84, is one of the mightiest instruments to serve the purpose of Government. Even at the risk of being called a pessimist, a Philistine and what not, I will say in the language of the most prominent *quondam* leader of the Young England Party,

Let wealth and commerce, law and learning die,

But give us back our Nobility.

The second General Election of the Santipur Municipality, which came off on the 5th ultimo, was not the success it ought to have been. The majority of the gentlemen (?) returned being B. lotian snobs of each possible shade and each possible hue. Of these 4 are Mussulmans, 5 are Brahmans, 1 Confectioner, 1 Sundi, 1 Milkman, 3 Tils and 1 Kayastha, no knight of the loom being returned, though the weavers constitute no inconsiderable proportion of the population. When the names of our newly chosen civic fathers were announced, I wondered, like the fly in the amber, how the d---I they got there, and predicted that, forming as they did a miscellaneous lot, they would be a scratch pack that never could hunt together. I have always held that a Municipality ought to consist of men

* * * * Who their duties know,

But know their rights, and knowing dare maintain.

Brought to this test, with 4 or 5 exceptions, all the elected Commissioners will be found wanting. One of the gentlemen in question is the grandson of a thatcher, was twice criminally convicted, and had, if I am not mistaken, to cool his heels in a penitentiary into the bargain; another was implicated in an atrocious murder case but, having command of the long purse, got off scotfree; a third was accused of kidnapping a girl for an immoral purpose, but the man was made to bleed by way of atonement by an overscrupulous Police, and the matter was hushed up; a fourth raised a hornet's nest against him by confining a young widow for some immoral purpose, but the washing of dirty linen in public was avoided, the Gay Lothario having been out of pocket to the extent of a few hundred Rupees--the amount being expended in satisfying the inner man of his neighbours--for, does not the shortest way to a gentleman's favor lie through his stomach? a fifth and sixth when connected with this very Municipality, earned an unenviable notoriety by their venality as well as ignorance of the difference between *meum* and *tuum*; a seventh--the most wicked and mischievous of the lot--is a veritable Mr. Fudge who reminds one of the monkey who has seen the world. But it is no use describing the character of men, not a few of whom are the veriest scum of society, at the risk of making the readers of even a society paper like *Reis and Rayyet* turn up their nose. But there is not a cloud without its silver lining, and there are among the gentlemen returned 4 or 5 persons who are ornaments of their species. Let us hope that a little heaven will leaven the whole thing.

The election was irregular from beginning to end. In preparing the lists of voters, which contained the names of about 300 men who are not voters but who did vote, the Sub-Divisional Officer rode a coach and four through the election rules. An asthmatic Deputy Magistrate with one foot in the grave, was deputed to attempt the impossible--to conduct the election of a town 9 square miles in area and with a population of thirty thousand souls. The election of all the 5 Wards commenced 2 or 3 hours after the appointed time and many voters went away. The enthusiasm and interest which the Mahomedans displayed were simply marvellous, they made a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether and gave the lie to the charge that they are apathetic in matters municipal. In '84 only one Mahomedan was returned, while this time so many as four followers of the Prophet were elected, 3 of them heading the poll at 3 different Wards. All the Mahomedans were made to swear on the Koran that they would vote only for their coreligionists.

In Ward No. 1, where there were four vacancies, no Mahomedan had the remotest chance of being returned; but then there was division in the Hindu camp and the Mahomedans were too wide awake not to take advantage of it. Only 27 Mussulman voters were present at the hustings and they gave 4 votes each to their nominee who headed the poll. In Ward No. 2, which is brimful of men of intelligence, education and public spirit, there were 4 candidates, one being our "uncrowned king," I mean Baboo Muthur Muhun Mukurjee, who is a tower of strength to the Municipality and who has established a title to our gratitude by his services to the town. The election of Muthur Baboo was a walk over and is a just recognition of devoted public spirit. In Baboo Muthur Muhun is realized the theory of perpetual motion. He knows no rest. When asked to take rest, Muthur Baboo says like Pascal "Rest! Have not we a whole eternity to rest in?" The other two Commissioners of this Ward are both men of light and leading and have made their mark as city fathers. In Ward No. 3, the two resident Zemindars were elected unopposed at the general election of '84 and they were confident that their election would be a matter of course, but evidently they counted without their host. Two of their Mussulman rayyets of different Wards measured their strength with them. All the Mahomedan voters, who by the way were the rayyets of the Zemindars in question, voted for the Islamite candidates on pain of ostracism. The Mahomedan candidates were in hopes that both of them would be returned, and it was not till 15 minutes after the poll had commenced that they awoke to their senses, one of them withdrawing from his candidature and thus taking the wind out of the sail of the Zemindars. It being now certain that the Mahomedan candidate would be returned, the question was which of the Zemindars would be elected, the uncle or the nephew, and now that Greek met Greek, the tug of war came. Both of them had run neck and neck for some time, when the idea occurred to the shrewd uncle that if he could induce some of the remaining voters to give him two votes each, he would be able to cut the ground away from under the feet of his nephew. The idea was reduced to practice, and the weak nephew Baboo Sarat Chandra Roy went to the wall. United, the Zemindars might have stood, but divided, they fell. Thus a rayyet did

Beard the lion in his den
The Douglas in his hall.

As soon as the result of the poll transpired, "Oh for an hour of Mati Baboo!" "Stands Santipur where it did?" "Surely, the times are out of joint!" were on every tongue. Now that the administra-

tion of Baboo Sarat Chandra Roy is about to close, it ought to be said that, though on his accession to the Vice-chair his enemies taunted him by saying that he was hatched at once into a Vice-chairman by the heat of his own ambition, and by repeating the lines

"A sight to make surrounding nations stare
A kingdom trusted to a school boy's care,"

they are now forced to admit that, in spite of many a storm that he had to weather, the schoolboy has steered the little craft under his guidance safe into the harbour over the rocks and quicksands that lay in the way, and that no name sheds brighter lustre on the Roll of Vice-chairmen of the local Corporation than that of Baboo Sarat Chandra Roy. The Great Commoner said that he had married the British constitution. To compare small things with great, it may truly be said of Baboo Sarat Chandra that he has married the Municipal administration though the contract is only for two years. In Ward No. 4, there were 4 seats to be competed for. But for the breach in their camp, the Hindus might have returned 3 of their number. In Ward No. 5, the poll commenced at 8 P.M., instead of at 5 P.M., and closed at 11 P.M. For the nonce, the Hindus dismissed all baser counsels, sordid views and vengeful feelings, and the Mahomedan candidate had not the ghost of a chance against their united phalanx. The three Hindu candidates scored an equal number of votes and carried the day, the Mahomedan being nowhere. It is a pity that the Hindus should have pressed a falling man too far and that some of the following of the defeated candidate should have come in for a deal of rough handling.

As for canvassing, the less said of it the better. The canvassers, mostly the candidates themselves, gave themselves no rest for 3 or 4 mortal days preceding the election, and rendered the lives of the poor voters not worth a day's purchase. They stuck at nothing which could even indirectly tend to compass their ends. Even the sacred thread and unadulterated falsehood were put into requisition. Some of the not overscrupulous candidates made the most of the letters that were sent to them by the Sub-Divisional Officer requesting them to send in the names of 6 gentlemen for nomination by Government. The practice of begging for votes, is, I should think, absurd, pernicious and altogether at variance with the true principles of elective franchise, your assertion to the contrary notwithstanding (*Vide Reis 17 December '87*). This is not my *ipsi dixit* only. Let us hear what the intellectual giant and consummate statesman says on the subject in a letter to his constituents:--

"The suffrage of an elector ought not to be asked, or to be given as a personal favor. It is as much for the interest of the constituents to choose well, as it can be for the interest of a candidate to be chosen. To request an honest man to vote according to his conscience is superfluous. To request him to vote against his conscience is an insult. The practice of canvassing is quite reasonable under a system in which men are sent to Parliament to serve themselves. It is the height of absurdity under a system under which men are sent to Parliament to serve the public. . . . I trust that the great and intelligent body of people who have obtained the elective franchise will see that seats in the House of Commons ought not to be given like rooms in an alms house, to urgency or solicitation, and that a man who surrenders his vote to caresses and supplications forgets his duty as such as if he sold it for a bank note. I hope to see the day when an Englishman will think it as great an affront to be courted and fawned upon in his capacity of elector as in his capacity of jury man. He would be shocked at the thought of finding an unjust verdict because the plaintiff or the defendant had been very civil and pressing, and if he would reflect, he would, I think, be equally shocked at the thought of voting for a candidate for whose public character he felt no esteem, merely because the candidate had called upon him, and begged very hard and had shaken his hand very warmly."

AN ONLOOKER.

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A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,

on Saturday, the 21st January 1888, at 3 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To confirm the Resolution passed by the Town Council on the 17th December fixing the salary of the Secretary at a minimum of Rs. 600 a month rising by annual increments of Rs. 50 to the maximum of Rs. 800.
2. To appoint a person to the office of Secretary.
3. The Chairman to move that the Commissioners proceed to appoint from among their number a Town Council, Standing and Special Committees for another year, the period for which the present members were appointed having expired.
4. Letter from the Government of Bengal, Legislative Department, forwarding a copy of Chapter II., Part I. of the Bill "to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Municipal affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta" as further amended by the Select Committee, and of the further preliminary report of the said Committee thereon.

At the close of the Special General Meeting, the Adjourned Special General Meeting will be held to further consider the Report of the Special Committee appointed to consider the amended Municipal Bill.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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The Lotus Bangle, (India) ...	" 60
The Forget-me-not Bangle ...	63
The Indian Bamboo Bangle ...	32
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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
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Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

Dr. S. C. Mookerjee, the editor of what is undoubtedly one of the ablest papers in the country in point of literary power is the author of a pleasant little book of Travels in East Bengal. The author is master of a racy style of English which many an Englishman may envy. Humorous descriptions and caustic satire enliven every page. There is throughout a vigour and freshness of style that lends a charm to the veriest commonplace. If there were, however, a higher purpose in the publication of this book than to lighten the weary evening hours of the ordinary reader, we confess to a feeling that the author has failed in such an object. We are afraid there is not poetry enough in us to body forth in imagination the beauty of the scenes which the author has described in his voyages to and fro between Dacca and Tipperah. Humourist as he is Dr. Mookerjee will remind us of the words of the poet that the point of a "jest lies more in the ear of him that hears it than in the tongue of him that utters it." As with the jest so is it with the description. We do not say that the charge is unfounded. Prosaic as we are, drudging away at the desk, perhaps it is that we lack capacity to follow in imagination what the author has doubtless delineated with an admirable pen.

One of the chief impressions that a reader will receive from a glance at the book is the somewhat strained relation between the Babus and the Anglo-Indians. The author pours a flood of ridicule upon the lordly airs of our "rulers." He hits hard indeed in his account of the Colonel at whist enduring a Babu looking on, when on board the steamer, and of the whiteman's condescension in bowing to the black nigger. Happily we in the South are not so badly off in our commerce with the representatives of Western civilization. In spite of several instances of conflict and misunderstanding Englishmen and Hindus pull on agreeably together. But the author, notwithstanding his involuntary feeling of aloof-

ness from the European, is no stranger to the blessings for which the West has laid us in debt. He has a keen appreciation of the endowments of this Westernized life of ours. He looks for ever forward and casts no longing lingering look behind at the things with which we have shaken hands and parted. His heart is in the continuance of British supremacy in the East. And agitation is his utmost weapon for the maintenance of his rights. But he will have nothing with spurious agitation. We extract below a paragraph of excellent advice to his brethren of the press. [Extract.]

The author recounts his adventure with the Railway officials of Sealdah with considerable humour. We feel an irresistible temptation to quote it *in extenso*, but space forbids. How the greenback was no legal tender, why silver of the Calcutta mint was wanted and how the currency question stood stiff and frowning despite the Editors and Magistrates who had accompanied the author to bid him good-bye at the station, and how again with the advent of the Justice of the Peace all objection to receiving the currency-note vanished, are all narrated in a style that is fittingly characterized only by the word "delightful." In another place the author introduces the reader to the Hindu belief in the auspicious hour for starting on a journey in language of such playful raillery that we make no apology for quoting it. [Extract.]

The untoward circumstance of the day, the event to which we have already alluded namely the refusal of the Railway officials to receive the currency-note in payment of the fare, elicits the following humorous confession of human weakness. [Extract.]

The author has some trenchant criticism on the insolation of the Englishman, which makes him inaccessible to the complaints of extortion or plunder by their menials. They are too absorbed to know all that passes about them and the wrongs that are committed in their names are unnoticed as mere trifles for they have rarely any idea of their magnitude. It is only too well known throughout the country how blackmail in the shape of money or provisions is levied upon the inhabitants when the Collector is on tour. It would be difficult to believe the thing could go on under his very nose without his connivance if we did not know his exclusiveness and his distaste for mixing with the people.

The author devotes the greater part of the book to a description of the people and the external aspect of the country that he passed through in his two trips to Tipperah from Calcutta and back. He has a good deal to say about the customs of some of the people he becomes acquainted with. He makes a discovery of the debris of a Portuguese colony in Tipperah that has become debased in morality and sunk in superstition. Although there is not much in the book that is instructive to the serious student, the grace of diction and the ease of style carry the reader pleasantly through. It would be difficult to rescue such a subject as he has chosen from dulness without his extraordinary command of language. We cannot promise more than a brief span of life to the book. It will prove what is abundantly clear to the readers of the *Reis and Rayyet* that the author is an adept in English composition. He is a lover of nature and he paints scenes and situations with an artist's pencil.—*The Hindu*, November 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears

to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible..... The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; *the Career of an Indian Princess*, *Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "*Travels in Bengal*" is a work of great merit. "It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "*Travels*" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes :—[Ex-

tract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read :—[Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described :—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character : [Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whittman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "he had such large anguishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Oissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

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Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1888.

} No. 307

SEBASTIAN.

A TALE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA.

[Continued from P. 14.]

24

Sebastian loved—for who could see
That maid, and say his heart was free,
Once hear her silvery accents fall
Upon the ear, so musical,
So winning, and so like the sound
Of some sweet voice that year on year
Hath haunted pleasant fancy's ear,
And though far sought yet rarely found?
Oh! who could meet that sun-bright eye,
Beaming with all that love lives by,
And own not that there dwelt the spell
Which soft-lipped Hafiz sung so well?
Sebastian loved—but yet his soul
Was scarcely fashioned to the feeling.
For cold ambition held control,
At every ray of hope's revealing,
And dark revenge still vexed his breast,
And robbed it of its wholesome rest,
And dreams of Glory once again
Came crowding on his heated brain.
And though his brow was smoothened down
When Gulánar was by his side,
Unclouded then by one dark frown,
One angry look or shade of pride,
Yet when he found himself alone,
Cribbed within those walls of stone,
And no companion but his thought,
Which stirred up olden memories fraught
With keen excitement past delight,
The wild excursion or the fight,
He sighed for freedom—for those days,
When none controlled his vagrant ways—
Content at any price to gain
Once more the ocean or the plain.

25

'Twas night and slowly rolled away
The moments, as Sebastian lay
Upon his cot; his brain disturbed
With thoughts that slumber never curbed.
Still did he muse upon his love;
On her, who, gentle as a dove,
Still wrought her generous task of good,
And sanctified his solitude,
Yet ever and anon the thought
Of joyous freedom came unsought,
And Gulánar and love did seem
The tissue of an idle dream.

* * * *

26

Again the maid is by his side,
And in her look, form, dignified,
And yet so mild, there breathes a grace
We find not but in woman's face,
And as he presses to his breast
Her whom of all he loveth best,
And with the silence of deep joy
Delight that words would but destroy,
Reads in her large and lustrous eye
The soul's response to every sigh,
She feels as one whose heart is strung
To verse impassioned but unsung,
Whose tide of aspiration flows
With depth and energy divine,
And yet wants words to tell how glows
Each burning thought and feeling fine.

27

"We part, Sebastian, part to-night,
Take this, and none may stay thy flight:
This signet gains thee ready way,
Beyond these hated prison walls.
Away, and let not love delay
When wishes urge and freedom calls."
"And thou?"
"There where fate hath placed me
I remain, nor must I seek to be
A rebel to my race and creed,
Howe'er so much our hearts may bleed."
"Oh! no, oh! no, we must not part,
Thou who hast wound around my heart
And made life priceless, who hast been
The brightener of this prison scene!
No! no! oh fly with me, oh fly,
Thy name shall be our battle cry,
Till every bosom shall awake
To Glory's light for thy sweet sake."
"Now listen, Christian,—it were vain
To urge me thus—for ne'er again,
So wills my fate, shall we two meet,
No more my glances thine may greet,
I would not forfeit heaven,
I would not wrong the Moslem name,
Though the heart's chords were riven,
And life one scene of woe became,
Nor would I break the vow,
My soul has pledged another,
Though vengeance fires my bosom now
And hate I scarce can smother.
Enough that I have saved thy life
For this in danger and in strife
When foes are near and friends are far,
Thou'lt still remember Gulánar,

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Thoul't still remember her who dared
 So much for him for whom none cared ;
 Who set aside her fears, her pride,
 E'en to attend a Christian's side,
 And almost gave her heart up wholly,
 To a love she knew to be unholy ;
 A bark awaits thee on the shore,
 Farewell, farewell—we meet no more,
 Farewell—go where thy wishes lead thee,
 And oh ! may Allah, Christian, speed thee."

28

The maid is gone, and will he go
 And forfeit one he loveth so,
 Or will he still in chains remain
 Nor relish stirring life again,
 But waste his lonesome hours where
 There never circled freedom's air ?
 Again the quiet moonlight falls
 Within those dreary dungeon walls,
 And as it met the prisoner's eye
 He paused—what means that heavy sigh ?
 Thinks he of olden scenes and times,
 Of days unstained by manhood's crime,
 When on his native land he played
 A boy beneath the orange shade,
 In freedom's full and wild delight,
 Then when the blossom had no blight !
 " Fool that I am, why linger here,
 The maid has gone, and her kind ear
 Will list no more wild words of mine,
 And make my moments seem divine."
 The gates are passed : he gains the shore,
 Treads with light step the friendly prore,
 In hope and freedom once again
 Sebastian rides upon the main.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE following appeared as a *Gazette of India* Extraordinary on Thursday, the 19th January, 1888 :—

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 7 of the Indian Salt Act, 1882, and in supersession of Notifications by the Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce, Nos. 1449, dated 10th March 1882, and, 751, dated 28th April 1882, the Governor-General in Council directs that, on and after the date of this Notification, the duty to be paid on salt manufactured in or imported by land into British India, shall be as follows :

(a) in the case of salt manufactured in or imported by land into Lower Burma, one rupee for each maund of 82·2·7 pounds avoirdupois weight, and

(b) in the case of salt manufactured in or imported by land into any other part in British India, except that portion of the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab which lies west of the river Indus, two rupees eight annas for each maund of 82·2·7 pounds avoirdupois weight."

That means, we take it, that Upper Burma continues a drain on the Indian exchequer, that the year closes with a deficit and that the Income Tax is not to be enhanced.

OUR Government, it is reported, feel themselves at ease to pursue the annexation of the Shan States. That was a question of time, we only hope it will not involve an increase of taxation to the poor Indians.

SIR Henry Sumner Maine has resigned his seat on the India Council, his duties at Cambridge being heavy. Who is the "fairest" Knight—Sir William W. Hunter, Sir Theodore Hope or Sir Rivers Thompson ?

IN reply to the Bombay memorial against the appointment of a Civilian as Chief Presidency Magistrate, the Secretary of State declines to interfere in the matter, the place being equally open to Civilians and Barristers.

THE *Advocate of India* writes :—

"Mr. Ney Elias, the Central Asian traveller, was Gazetted on New Year's Day a C.I.E. He has declined the decoration. An obvious

suggestion seems to be that the Government should not, like a benevolent Santa Claus, take by surprise people who are known to have hung up a stocking, or to be deserving of a seasonable recognition. It should guard against a snub such as Mr. Elias has not too politely administered, by first consulting those whom it is intended to honour."

It is a rare bird in these days of hollow radicalism that declines a decoration. Or, is Mr. Elias' pretensions so high that he would not be companion to anything however big ?

**

WE are glad to welcome any signs of the prospect of Indian gold-mining. Accordingly, we note that the *Madras Times* writes :—

"The collapse of the gold-mining companies in this Presidency a few years ago, when the frauds which had been perpetrated in issuing the prospectuses and compiling the reports, &c., of those companies were brought to light, caused the almost immediate withdrawal of public faith from all gold-mining transactions in Southern India ; and at the present time confidence is far from being restored. The companies in Mysore have conducted their operations since then with the utmost caution, only allowing the public to learn the progress they are making through an instructed agent, or from the published reports. During the last years several native speculators have started operations on their own account and, as they are extending them we may suppose that they have not been altogether unsuccessful."

..

THE sea is giving back to China her lost city—Haigen :—

"The ancient Chinese city of Haigen, north of Ningpo, which was submerged by the sea a thousand years ago, has lately been exposed to view, and a large number of vases, plates, and other utensils of the Sung dynasty were recovered."

..

MAHARANEE Bamba, wife of Maharaja Dhuleep Singh, left a personality which has been valued at £2,001·15s·7d., letters of administration whereof have been granted to Prince Albert Victor Dhuleep Singh.

..

THE Duke of Westminster has swelled the Countess of Dufferin's Jubilee Fund by £200.

..

THE Home remittances last week amounted to £4,01,300.

..

SIR Frederick Roberts is always on the move. He arrived at Calcutta the other day and left it yesterday for his N. W. tours, arriving at Simla by the middle of April.

..

THE Siam Government has made a concession to the French Republic. Imports from Cambodia and Cochin-China are declared free and the French Council, M. Pavie, at Luang Prabang, is recognised.

..

A WRITER in the *Advocate of India* addresses an eulogistic letter to the Hon'ble Haridas Nanabhai, in the course of which he pays him the following well-deserved tribute :—

"You have done the greatest possible service to the cause of education in this Presidency by drawing the attention of the public and the authorities to the very curious and enigmatical manner in which the University conducts its business. Sir, you have done what everyone who knows you expected you to do—your duty. The silent and the sure way in which you work for the advancement of your countrymen cannot but elicit the admiration of all. Your minutes on the Civil Service question, your labours for the native Bar, and your effective measures to put a stop to official high-handedness in Gujarat have endeared you to all the inhabitants of that province. But sometimes you carry your modesty too far. In this instance it is the earnest desire of all the candidates, and their parents, that you should persevere in this good cause with your wonted zeal."

Mr. Nanabhai is not only an able Judge but a public-spirited citizen. He is a model of modest worth and activity which may be imitated with advantage throughout the empire.

..

TEMPORARY War Railways were first constructed by the British in the Crimea. Since then, the idea has found extensive development. And now we read :

"Portable railways of a new type will assuredly be among the leading features of the next great war. The latest invention in this line is the idea of an Austrian engineer, Herr Leinwather. His rails are said to be the best of the kind ever made, being especially good over uneven ground. The Austrian War Office has ordered a small supply, and will make a trial of the railway at once. Germany has also asked Herr Leinwather for samples both of his rails and wagons."

..

MRS. PUTNAM HEATON's investigation into the employments, wages, and prospects of female toilers in New York, shews that women constitute more than half the assistants in the dry-goods stores, a fourth of the telegraph operators, about a fifth of the type setters and more than

half the type-writers. According to her, women generally are less efficient telegraphers and type-setters than men; but that they are as good stenographers, and altogether superior type-writers and "dry-goods clerks."

H. H. the Amir of Afghanistan left Cabul for Jalalabad on the 5th January and reached Butkok the same day. On the following day he reached Samucha-i-mulla Umar. The British Agent Lieutenant-Colonel Ataula Khan accompanied H. H.

Captain C. L. Griesbach, C.I.E., Deputy Superintendent of the Geological Survey of India, has been permitted to take employment under the Amir of Afghanistan for the purpose of developing the mineral resources of that country. He will leave Calcutta shortly to meet H. H. at Jalalabad.

Sardar Afzul-ul-Mulk, the second son of the Ruler of Chitral, had an interview with H. E. the Viceroy at 3 P. M. to-day (17th January.)

H. H. the Amir has arrived at Jalalabad.

H. H. the Gaekwar of Baroda will return to India about the middle of February, and is likely to go to Ootacamund for the hot weather.

Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan and the principal Sardars with him left Meshed yesterday (Jan. 19) on their way to India *via* Teheran and Baghdad.—Press Commissioner.

THE *Advocate of India* has, in its Thursday (Jan. 12) evening's wise and brilliant leading article, disposed of Sir Syed Ahmed's late lecture at Lucknow. We extract the most important paragraph, and trust that our countrymen of this Province will feel themselves beholden to the Editor for the just and spirited defence of the poor Bengali which he never fails to make—he replied to Sir Lepel Griffin's anathema—when necessary!

"For our own part, we cannot make out what position Sir Syed Ahmed really wishes to occupy. He is a warm admirer of the Government, but, on the other hand, he is also proud of the Bengalis, who, according to him and some other people, appear to be the only Hindus in India. Yet he would not like to see them rule over Mahomedans and Rajputs and other warlike races because they are afraid of table knives. Evidently, who drives fat oxen must himself be fat; but as the Bengalis do not propose to fight, but to work peacefully among the 'warlike' races, most of whom have taken part in no hostilities for the last hundred years, what reason is there for reminding them that they are physically weak and a little too conscious of the fact? Sir Syed Ahmed does not seem to be aware that all over the country Bengalis are occupying offices that bring them into daily relations with the warlike races, not only without untoward results, but with remarkable success. The native State of Jeypore, for example, the home of the Rajput, has for its Prime Minister a Bengali, who has for many years been in the same service; and several other Bengalis hold high office in the State. Yet it was in this very State, some twenty years ago, that a British Political Agent was cut to pieces in the public streets by an ignorant population maddened to frenzy at the idea that he intended, in some manner, to make away with the infant Maharaja. Where the Englishman, though he possessed much more prestige than that with which Sir Syed Ahmed credits the ordinary Civilian, went helplessly to his death, the Bengali, by his kinship with the people—he is an Indian after all—has been able to retain the confidence of a Rajput Prince and the respect of his Rajput subjects. Yet if the critics of the Babu are to be trusted, he has no chance of securing the good-will of the warlike native, or indeed of any one outside Bengal, except he is able to show that he is a fire-eater of the genuine sort. In Kashmere the Chief Justice until the other day was a Bengali. He was for years an honoured servant of the late Maharaja; and the circumstances under which he left the State are not in any way discreditable to him. In this Presidency, too, there are, we believe, two or three Bengalis in the service of the Government; but though they occupy high posts in the midst of Mahrathas and other races, no one here thinks of differentiating them from their surroundings."

THE Sessions Judge of Hooghly, Mr. Kelleher, has, on verdict of guilty, sentenced one Sagore Mundul to seven years' labor for arson. The man admitted the offence before the committing Magistrate, but pleaded not guilty and moreover is said to have feigned madness during the trial. The Judge took evidence as to the state of the prisoner's mind and the Jury unanimously convicted him.

To the simple Oriental, the floating of iron ships is wonder enough. But what shall be said of the following!

"The question of making laces of iron and steel for ladies' and children's wear is again (says the *Pittsburg Chronicle*) being discussed in art and fashion circles. At the Centennial in 1876 a piece of steel rolled by a Pittsburg mill was on exhibition, which was so thin and light that it weighed much less than a book leaf, and could be blown from the hand easier than a piece of paper of the same size. The iron leaf was rolled on a train of rollers upon which heavy tank and boiler iron is now

rolled. Experts say that curtains and fine laces can be made of soft malleable iron, and in every way be used with greater satisfaction than cotton laces. The sheets will necessarily have to be rolled down to an exceedingly low gauge, and then passed into any desirable pattern and shape. There will be no trouble in furnishing iron laces for ladies' and children's wear, with their names and other ornaments in a filigree design. An introduction of steel lace would establish in Pittsburg an industry that would give work to at least 3,000 men, and consume annually not less than 76,000 tons of steel, which is now a drug in the market at less than two cents a pound. Steel lace, unlike cotton, can be made tight or heavy without affecting the grade, colour, or brightness. We may yet see fashionable ladies wearing steel shawls and trimmings for their hats and dresses."

Iron gossamer is a contradiction in terms—an Irish bull. But there is no room for doubt in these days, and we may live to wear steel muslin.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE scandals which drove the late President of the French Republic from the helm, are not creditable to European public morality. The desperate clinging to power of Mr. Grévy, has been no less a scandal of another kind. The facts are worth recounting. On the 19th November, M. Clemenceau in the Chamber demanded an immediate disclosure of the intentions of Government after the grave scandals implicating the President's son-in-law. In vain M. Rouvier pleaded for grace, till at least the conversion of the 4¼ per cents., threatening to resign in case of refusal. The Chamber took the Premier at his word. After a brief pailey rather than debate of three quarters of an hour, the Chamber divided, with the result that, by a combination of the Right and the Extreme Left, in a house of 544, the proposition for delay was lost by a majority of 90. M. Rouvier announced his resignation. Then commenced the difficulty of M. Grévy. He exhausted all the leading politicians without one being able to form a ministry. There was nothing left for him but to resign, but he rejected such counsels till Wednesday the 23rd Nov. when he yielded to a friend, M. H. Maret, a journalist whom he consulted. He allowed M. Maret to announce his intention. I, was not however till Friday the 25th that the President announced to the Cabinet his intention to resign. Even then he was not prepared to execute the written document to that effect there and then. He wanted a few days more; on Monday the 28th he would send in his resignation. The suspense was most irritating to Paris—to whom the hours seemed months—and might be dangerous in France. When Monday came, the President had not yet made up his mind. He again promised to send in his formal resignation on Thursday the 1st. M. Rouvier, who conducted the Government in the meantime, accordingly made known, in the official *Gazette*, Thursday as the date when M. Grévy's resignation would be received. But the President again changed his mind, and M. Rouvier had the awkward task of announcing the vacillation to the Chamber, coupling the statement with his own second resignation. The Chamber was furious, and adjourned till 4 P. M., in the hope of a favourable message by that hour. None came, however, when they reassembled, so they, by an almost unanimous resolve (531 against 3), adjourned again for a couple of hours, expressly stating that they expected the promised announcement. This expression of the Deputies' mind was strengthened by the concurrence of the Senate. When the will of both Houses was conveyed to the President, he again promised to resign the next day. And this promise he kept. Small thanks to him for doing a thing of compulsion with such exceedingly bad grace! What a fall was there for a man who bore such a high character and was specially reputed for a grave dignity, and who was in consequence twice elected President of the Republic. Had he been a stronger man he might have caused a *coup d'état*.

A Paris correspondent moralises on the fall of the President:—

"Since Sulla's in 79, to Amadeus of Spain's in 1873, few countries but have had an abdication in their history, and almost all rulers have abdicated on the Hobson's choice principle; not excepting Diocletian, cited as a model abdicator. Charles V., when he retired from business to embark in the clockmaking trade, got softy and relieved his monastic ennui by conspiring against his successor. 'It is a year to-day since the Emperor abdicated,' said Cardinal Granville: 'It is a year to-day that he has repented for doing so,' replied Philippe II. Christina of Sweden had hardly descended from her throne than she conspired to repossess power. James II. of England, the Napoleons, Charles X., Louis Philippe, were 'run in,' and which, by courtesy, has been called abdication. Napoleon I. abdicated when he lost the Russian campaign: he did so a second time, after his defeat at Waterloo. Casimir V., of Poland, laid down his sceptre voluntarily and with dignity, before the Diet which he assembled. Predicting the dismemberment of the kingdom, which he could not prevent, and the

divisions among the legislators, that he could not reconcile, he retired. Thiers threw up the sponge in a sulk, and was vexed to the day of his death, for being kept out in the cold. MacMahon, rather than speculate in civil war, submitted and retired. It was only when among showers of enemy's shells and balls, that he never budged. Gambetta even had to lay down his dictatorship, in presence of an exhausted and betrayed France. And now M. Grévy had to retire, before the clamour of indignation, at his making the Palace of the Elysee the head-quarters for the carrying on, by his son-in-law, of a vast bazaar, where influence was sold; and every shady project welcomed, and lame ducks rarely dismissed.

The lingering struggle M. Grévy has made against his forced retirement, has considerably diminished the sympathy that otherwise would be extended, to the sudden collapse of his presidential career. It was hitherto believed, that M. Grévy's paddy-go-easy official life was the consequence of a temperament antagonistic to fuss and feathers: that his years naturally were glad to leave not a little of his cares and vigilance to others, in whom he had the blindest confidence. But since the nation, admirably passive—a model of *sans froid*—yet terribly pained and wounded at the humiliation brought upon them by all the dealers in corruption and abuses, has noted the unexpected development of his energy and plans to avoid shaking off the presidential coil, it is more economical in the appreciation of the services rendered to France, and to the republican party, by M. Grévy. During his nearly nine years in office, it is asserted, he has saved about one million of francs. He is upbraided with parsimony, by giving no fêtes, and so give a lift to depressed trade: by not figuring on lists of charity: by not making official tours with the money paid to him for that end. The *Paris* which with the XIX. *Siècle*, claims to have unearthed M. Wilson, states M. Grévy did very little for the Republican party, save to receive all the plums in the pudding. In 1830, he took a musket, and like other hot-headed youths, followed Blanqui to chase away Charles X; nothing was heard about him till 1848 when he brought forward, in the assembly, his famous resolution, that for the well-working of the Republic, it ought to have no president, but only a prime minister. Under the Second Empire, he did not come to the front, to protest against the confiscation of all the liberties by that régime, leaving the heat and burden of those days, to Jules Favre and Ernest Picard. During the Government of the National Defence, that is of the invasion, he was seen upon no breach; he remained in his snuggety of Mount-sous-Vaudrey. He turned up at the Assembly of Bordeaux, and occupied the presidential chair. No eloquence of his is to be recorded, regarding the invasion, the Commune, nor the loss of Alsace. When the 16th May threatened the Republic, he disappeared. After the abdication of MacMahon, and the death of Thiers, he came to the front, and received the reward of the presidency. As a set off to this indictment, it must be remembered, that the very fact of electing him twice president, implies claims of an exceptional order, and he would not now have been flung aside like the sucked orange, had it not been for the scandals of his son-in-law, and other members of the Grévy family. Cail no man happy till he is dead."

MR. E. E. LOWIS, under date the 3rd instant, gives, in a Calcutta paper, an interesting account of a first tiger 9 feet 3 inches long which was shot by three persevering Mahomedan village Nimrods (*Shikaris*) in a tree. It is only leopards and jaguars that ascend trees, but this tiger appears to have been belated and surprised in the midst of its night prowlings by day-light. In quest of a suitable place for hiding in the day, it met with a man on the borders of a pond and, more in funk and fright than in mischief, charged and wounded him. Seeing no respectable thicket for the use of a genteel tiger, it quietly got up an umbrageous ancient mango overhanging the piece of water and improvised the shady loft in the air for a lodging *pro tem* for itself, till nightfall might allow it to depart in peace for its native woods. But the villagers were far too frightened to allow it peace. They dared not to come out of their homes till the unwelcome visitor had been chased out or laid *hors de combat*. Soon the local heroes came gun in hand and, after a careful reconnoissance, discovered that the noble animal had taken shelter in the branches above the water; it could not be well seen even from the land. Nothing daunted, they constructed a raft of the trunks of plantain tree and sailing right under the leafy canopy took aim and fired. This had only the effect of dislodging the tiger from that part of the tree to another part on the land side, where it was partially exposed to view of some of their companions in sport. They fired, compelling the tiger to shift its position, until after a long hide and seek for life it fell down, goaded by the relentless persecution of these rural hunters, and was finally despatched, not without omitting the last indignity of fate in the East—kicking and lashing with slippers and shoes.

This occurred in Chittagong.

LITERARY men in Europe not only write but they also fight—in France, unto the bitter end. Lately, one Bennet Burleigh was arrested with others, apparently in connection with the demonstrations of the unemployed, and charged as one of "loose, idle and disorderly persons disturbing the public peace with intent to commit a felony."

Mr. Poland, who prosecuted for the Treasury, withdrew the charge, saying that the Police had made a mistake. By the bye, those blessed defenders of our peace seem to have a remarkable faculty for mistake. In the West, as in the East, in the Northern as in the Southern hemisphere, they are always doing the wrong thing and capturing the wrong man rather than the wrong-doer. Mr. Vaughan, the Magistrate, at once and emphatically said when the defendant was first brought before him that such a charge could not be supported. The notion was, said Mr. Poland, that Mr. Burleigh was acting with the other defendants, but it was an unfounded notion. The Magistrate thought the reporter ought to have mentioned to the Police his vocation. So he did, Mr. Burleigh said. He was taken up notwithstanding as a felon. The Magistrate said that the Police Superintendent on the first day distinctly stated the contrary. Mr. Lewis, on the part of Mr. Burleigh, said that if the case had proceeded there would have been a conflict of evidence.

A WRITER in an American Magazine gives a charming story of Oriental good faith, chivalry and generosity:—

"Never was the Empire [of France in Algeria] in such danger as in the Franco-German War. As soon as it was evident that it was going against the French, their troops were recalled from Africa to take part in the great struggle at home till Algeria was left almost without defence. Then the hour for which the conquered races had long waited had come, and if they could at once have joined their forces and proclaimed a holy war, it is altogether probable that the French would have been driven from Northern Africa. They might have regained Algeria after the German war was over, but only by a repetition of the years of fighting which it cost to conquer it. That the tribes did not take advantage of this and rise while the French had their hands full on the other side of the Mediterranean, was owing wholly to their fidelity to a solemn pledge. When the war broke out a chief of great influence among the tribes, Mokrani, gave his word to the Governor-General of Algeria that there should be no insurrection *while the war lasted*. The word was faithfully kept. The French arms were followed by disaster after disaster; Napoleon surrendered at Sedan, and Bazaine surrendered at Metz. Then it seemed as if a voice from the Rhine called to the tribes of Kabylia to seize an opportunity which might never come again. But not a man stirred; nor yet when all the defeats and disgraces of the war culminated in the siege and surrender of Paris. The Moslem's faith was plighted; the Moslem's faith was kept! But—when all was over, when the last battle had been fought, and the treaty of peace had been signed at Frankfurt, then Mokrani was released from his pledge, and then, and not till then, did he declare war. And still he would take no unfair advantage, but gave forty-eight hours' notice. Then the war cry went through the mountains, and the tribes rushed to the field. They fought desperately, not only destroying towns, but laying siege to fortified places. Even Fort Napoleon, now Fort National, the strongest fortress in Kabylia, had to sustain a siege of over two months before the French troops could come to its relief. But the end was inevitable, for as soon as the French armies were freed from duty at home, they came in large divisions across the Mediterranean. Seeing that all was lost, Mokrani put himself at the head of his troops for the last battle, and dashing to the front, 'foremost, fighting, fell.' The war was ended, and the Kabyles were subdued, but with no loss of reputation for courage, and with increase of honour, in that they had kept faith, even with unbelievers; and it was fitting that the French should themselves erect a monument to mark the spot where this noble enemy perished. Such fidelity, coupled with valour in war and industry in peace, with intense love of country and courage in defending it, are enough to redeem a whole people from the reproach of barbarism."

Still harping on Oriental barbarism! But what a contrast do these Arabs present to the French intruders. Foiled in Algeria in the field, these representatives of Christendom and Western Europe burnt their brave enemy in a cave! After plighting their honor to the heroic Abdul Kader, they deported him and threw him into prison in the heart of France! And how nobly the Moslem hero kept his troth to the last, even after he was set free, and was once more among Mussulmans in a Mahomedan land! How unlike the darling of the French nation and anointed of the Pope, Napoleon the Great! Herein lies the strength—we will not say the superiority—of Islam. And they prate of European honour, and deny its possession to the East! Well, if the East trembleth not before "society," it is enough if 'it walketh in the fear of the Lord.

MR. RICHARD PROCTER has been treating of the idiosyncrasies of memory. We extract the cream. Speaking of a college acquaintance, he says:—

"Though he had only read through our college Euclid once, he could recite or write out the whole of it; or if preferred, he could begin at any point where one might start him and reproduce any quantity—*verbatim et literatim, atque punctuatim*, so far as that was concerned. But not only was he utterly unable to understand a word of it all, he had not even brains enough to keep his real ignorance of Euclid to himself. He was always forgetting the good old rule *ne quid nimis*,"

and as he did not know where to stop in his marvellous recitations, the examiners naturally came to the conclusion, perfectly justified by the facts, that though he knew his Euclid by heart, he knew nothing about geometry. We need not then despair of our mental powers when we hear of marvellous feats of memory, nor even think that our minds are failing because with advancing years our memory may occasionally play us false. Memory, as Dr. Dordat, of Montpellier, long since pointed out, and as hundreds of facts shew, is rather the offspring of the vital force than of the intellectual principle, and it is not surprising if in old age, when the vital force diminishes, memory should sometimes fail, even while the intellectual power preserves its full integrity. The examples themselves which most strikingly display the capacity of special brains for remembering words and syllables show also how little this capacity has to do with intellectual power—some of them, indeed, seem almost to suggest that a very keen memory may be a mark of disease. That excessive keenness of memory may result from a disease of cerebral action is, indeed, certain; but fortunately we are not obliged to regard this fact as giving any unpleasant significance to exceptionally good powers of remembrance. If foolish or idiotic persons, or persons in the delirium of fever, have manifested remarkable memories, men like Macanlay, Prescott, Saler, and others have had marvellous memories without being feeble minded and without the aid of disease. Pepys tells us of an Indian who could repeat a long passage in Greek or Hebrew after it has been recited to him only once, though he was ignorant of either language. Coleridge relates in his 'Literaria Biographia' that in a Roman Catholic town in Germany a young woman who could neither read nor write was seized with a fever, during which, according to the priests, she was possessed by a polyglot devil. For she talked Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, besides uttering sounds which, though not understood by her hearers, had, doubtless, meaning, but belonged to languages unknown to them. 'Whole sheets of her ravings were written out,' says Coleridge, 'and were found to consist of sentences intelligible in themselves, but having slight connection with each other.' After much trouble he discovered that at the age of nine she had been charitably taken by an old Protestant pastor, a great Hebrew scholar in whose house she lived till his death. On further inquiry it appeared to have been the old man's custom for years to walk up and down a passage of his house into which the kitchen opened, and to read to himself in a loud voice out of his books. The books were ransacked, and among them were found several of the Greek and Latin fathers, together with a collection of Rabbinical writings. In these works so many of the passages taken down at the young woman's bedside were identified that there could be no reasonable doubt as to their source. If the girl had remembered these passages in a normal way and had merely uttered them during her sickness, the story would have been remarkable enough, since she was altogether uneducated. But, as a matter of fact, she remembered none of them in health, either before or after her sickness. It was doubtless the activity or the circulation during the access of the fever which brought out, as it were, the impressions of sounds recorded in the brain, but so lightly that except during such stimulation she remained unconscious even of their existence."

Such marvels of memory as Mr. Procter mentions at the outset, are common enough in the East as well as in the West. Most of them are men of slender parts in general, but their nakedness usually eludes examiners. And herein lies the cause of the failure of examinations, as ordinarily conducted, as a test of merit. We have known men who passed their law examination simply by their power of repeating by rote. One of them, a fine mathematician who held the chair of law at a Government college, confessed to us that at the time he passed in law he really did not understand the Penal Code, though he could give it from beginning to end. It is only youths of such retentive powers that have a chance at modern examinations, so much on such a variety of subjects is expected of examinees. That shows a radical defect in the system which should be removed, if high intellectual power is not for ever to be scared away from University education or denied its rewards. It is a great evil where the memory is exercised at the expense of the higher faculties. And this is what is precisely done. The unreasonable cultivation of the retentive power is made use of to "get up" rather than master subjects for which students have no natural aptitude. This fighting Nature can come to no good. Neither the individual nor society is at all benefitted by it. It should be the aim of enlightened educationists to put an end to this great evil which is growing with the expansion of education. In another column is an opportune protest from a simple native student.

THE Committee of the Madras Agri-Horticultural Society held a meeting on the 7th December last, in which papers were read on the production of mangoes at unusual seasons. Dr. John Shortt writing from Yercand on the subject, says:—

"Very little care or attention has been given to the mango as a fruit producer. Some care is given to them during infancy; after that, they are left to nature; neither pruning, manuring, nor irrigation is attended to. Notwithstanding, we do get some splendid fruits from some of them; but if they were attended to like other fruits, the results would be better. On the Bombay side and towards Goa, two crops are obtained from the mango, but on the Madras side only one. The plants will have to be forced to get them to fruit out

of season. Recent mango graft will often push out flowers out of season; advantage should be taken of those to take grafts off them and to see that the actual branch in flower is made the 'scion.' Grafts from trees that produce a second crop from the Bombay side should be secured and care should be taken to see that grafts are put on when the tree is in flower with its second crop, and thus I think we might succeed in establishing a second mango crop. I have myself eaten mangoes from second crops which were taken from Bombay to Tuticorin, and sent up here from thence by my daughter. Second crop fruits are procurable along the Western Coast on these occasions. I don't know whether you are aware that an indication of the failure of a crop of mangoes becomes at once evident when the tree bursts out with a mass of young leaves which is a certain indication that no fruits will follow. It is only by resorting to selected grafts, the scion of which has been taken from a plant that produced fruit out of season and when in flower or fruit, a second crop of fruit may be obtained by ringing the stem, and at the same time attending to the tree by manuring, watering and pruning it freely. This plan might be put into practice anywhere, that is ringing the mango stem out of season, and when got to flower and fruit, take grafts from it at once. This is a subject that requires care and attention, and success will be the result. I have some papers on the subject on which I cannot lay my hands just now." "Dr. Shortt also suggested two other plans; but the honorary secretary doubts the likelihood of either of them being successful, but agrees with Mr. Gleeson, the Superintendent of the Gardens, that by patient enquiry and careful selection trees may be found and propagated with the habit already established of fruiting not twice a year, but at unusual seasons, by which means fruits might possibly be obtained in nearly every month in the year. Surgeon-General Bidie remarks, that when at Colombo last year during the Christmas holidays, a basket of mangoes was brought to him, and on enquiry he was informed that that was the season for Jaina mangoes; also that he has heard that the late Maharaja of Travancore succeeded in having mangoes every day of the year."

Before we congratulate the gourmands of the South, we should like to know the quality of the edible. Better good mangoes once a year than indifferent ones all the year round. The Southern fruit is so inferior that we do neither wonder at, nor care for, its chronological variation or the multiplication in the number of its crops. The shifting of the season is not so difficult, and by due arrangement of a dozen trees one may get mangoes every month. But it might be hazardous to experiment on the finer varieties. Certainly, we would not advise any one to try to extract two crops from his Lengra, Pearaphooli, Gopale Dhoba, or other similar grafts. We would warn the good Nawab of Moorshedabad against any innovation of the kind in his orchards. The delicate flavour of the Begumpasand and the Sultanpasand and other such *Pasands*, will scarcely stand such rude interference. It would be a calamity if, in the rage for horticultural reform, the quality of the noblest of God's tokens of love to his creatures—the mango—suffered. What we desire to see is the multiplication of trees of the most delicious fruitage, so as to bring the boon of such good eating—in every sense—within the reach of the poor. For the mango is not only savoury but nutritious.

If our scientific botanists and "practical horticulturists" want to make experiments in this connection, let them discover the mango creeper and try their powers on it. They may come upon some good.

WE have to record a sad loss in the death, on Thursday morning, at Deoghur, of heart disease, of Baboo Dwarkanath Chuckerbutty Born of poor parents at Gostea, north of Halisahar, the Brahman lad went to the neighbouring Hooghly College for education, where he commenced his school career. There he early developed his intellectual powers under the chargeable care of Baboo Bhudeb Mookerjee, then Headmaster of the local Normal School. Baboo Dwarkanath next joined the old Hindu College in Calcutta paying his expenses by private tuition. Compelled early to enter the world, he took to schoolmastering as his profession. Cherishing higher aims in life, he passed his examination in Law. Being little known and wanting the wherewithal to set himself up a practitioner, he continued a teacher. He next went to Cuttack as headmaster, thence in the same capacity to Beerbhoom—his future home. There he was enabled by the kindness of the Judge to enroll himself a Vakil and shew and develop his powers as a lawyer. Soon he began to prosper. With reputation established, he went to Bhagulpore. On the death of Kristo Das Pal, he accepted the Assistant-Secretaryship of the British Indian Association, and joined the High Court, without giving up his mofussil practice. He figured best during the last Rent Question, and contributed some of the ablest argument, from Beerbhoom, in the *Englishman* on the Rent Bill. A new Zemindar, he regarded with horror the gradual whittling away of the pledges of 1793, and he put his whole soul into their defence.

Baboo Dwarkanath knew no rest nor comfort. He knew only his

clients, and died in their service. He leaves two sons to inherit his competence chiefly invested in land. He was an amiable man of great modesty. His love of study was an absorbing passion. He was a brilliant criminal advocate, sound in law and effective in examination and pleading. He was a good and ready speaker as well as writer. But his fame had been local before the death of Kristo Das Pal brought him to town. He was discovered by his letters to the *Englishman*. The first of the series showed the existence of a new writer in rural Beerbhoom. Since then his fluent pen was pressed into the cause.

ON Wednesday, the 18th, the Countess of Dufferin opened, at the Museum, the International Exhibition of Photographs. The Lieutenant-Governor received the Countess and the Maharanee of Cooh Behar was present. Baboo Koonjolar represented the oleaginous natives.

THE Accountant-General, Madras, was for 20 years troubled with an iron safe which would not open. From time to time, attempts were made to peep within but without success, as without zeal. No effort in right earnest was made, under the notion that business would not quit cost—*le jeu ne valait pas la chandelle*. Possibly, the notion was encouraged by some one or more in the office who knew better. At any rate, the chest was not broken open, and it was voted a nuisance. For, it certainly might have been left undisturbed, to take its chance in the future, when the "open sesame" was discovered, or till inquiry for something of importance missing in the office might suggest an anxious search into the unopened safe. If pressed for space, the chest might be utilised for a seat or a stand for various articles. If it wounded the esthetic sensibilities of the Accountant-General, it might easily enough be converted into a thing of beauty. At the worst, it might be relegated to an obscure corner, or even to a lumber room. But no! it was worse than an eye-sore. It became a crying grievance. Nothing short of making an end of it, would satisfy the indignant department. So they deliberately proceeded to the sacrifice. Here the traditions of the Great Circumlocution Office interposed and imposed moderation. A bloody execution was out of the question. The Accountant-General might have blown the offending box and its contents to atoms with dynamite, but he was reminded that that would be too barbarous for British officials. At last, after the usual expenditure of black ink and red tape and foolscap, the obnoxious safe was ordered to be sent to the auctioneer for whatever price it might fetch. Messrs. DeRozario and Co. sold it, knocking it down to a Native. The purchaser was more persevering than the Government department, if he had not indeed made his purchase on purpose. He came into a valuable possession for a song. He found in the chest a large number of Tanjore bonds valued at 10 lacs of rupees. Now the officials awoke to their responsibility. There was weeping and wailing in the department and shedding of crocodile tears, as well as drops of genuine distress and shame. The law officers of the Crown were moved, and at last Government came down upon the purchaser—for the bonds. The auction-purchaser stood upon his rights: having paid for the safe as it was, he flatly refused to part with the contents. He however agreed to give up the bonds for Rs. 2,00,000 or even for Rs. 1,50,000. Now the officials made an opportune discovery—to their own discredit though. The bonds in question had been paid up, though they bore no endorsement to that effect. That was a grave irregularity, for which somebody ought to suffer. But if the statement be true, the bonds are little better than waste paper. It were paying dearly indeed for a whistle to recover them at the price set or for any respectable sum. Indeed, if Government possessed proof of payment, we do not understand the anxiety for the bonds. Failing to bully the purchaser into surrender of the documents, application was made for the interference of the courts. A suit for the bonds was filed, and Justice Shephard has ordered delivery thereof with costs.

THERE will be an Investiture of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire in the Throne Room of Government House, at noon, on Saturday, the 4th February, 1888.

A SAD failure of justice has, in the opinion of the whole Oriental world, occurred, under the operation of an inelastic Code of relentless theoretical legislation, in the case of Sahoo Sahu of Cuttack. We hope the Crown will step in to save the poor man.

THIS afternoon, the Municipal Commissioners elected Mr. John Cowie as their Secretary to replace Mr. Turnbull who retires in April next.

LATE at night, as we are going to press, we receive the following telegram from Cuttack:—

Orissa annual National Agricultural Exhibition was proclaimed opened on the 18th at 9 in the morning, in the Cuttack Collectorate compound by Babu Denonath Bannerjee, with a short speech explaining the object of the Exhibition. Subsequently six salutes were fired and music played. The exhibits are of rare quality and nicely arranged. Both European and Native gentlemen were present and expressed satisfaction. Mr. Henry, the Collector, expressed great satisfaction and has given one prize. The arrangements are simply perfect, considering the single-handedness of Babu Denanath. His zeal is laudable. On the 19th, 500 poor were fed by Dinonath Babu. Admission of cultivators, ladies and girls was gratis. Exhibition remained open for six days. Prizes will be distributed next week. Some students of college and collegiate school destroyed some articles throwing balls into the exhibition hall and cutting screen, insulted police and forged tickets.

Mr. Cantonment Magistrate Hopkins of Barrackpore is a strong man. He lately fined the European Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of the Police for not taking out a license for his horse. The P. A. pleaded exemption as a Police Officer, but the C. M. overruled the objection. He might be of the Police at Calcutta but not in the 24-Pergunnas. The P. A. paid the fine but he conceived himself unfairly treated, and got his principal the I. G. to sympathise with him so far as to appeal to Government against the savage quasi-military tribunal. But the Law officers thought Mr. Hopkins right and the Lieutenant-Governor did not interfere.

19756

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1888.

HORSE BREEDING FOR THE STATE.

THERE is great difference of opinion on the quality of horseflesh suited to the demands of the state. In the East, we swear by the Arab. Among the Arabians, who are the best horsemen in the world, there is an ancient tradition, implicitly believed in by the tribes of the desert in Asia as in Africa, that attributes the horse to a special creation of the Almighty next in importance to the making of Adam himself. In India, the famous Katywar is originally an Arab. In France, the Algerian struggles of the French so impressed the authorities with the virtues of the Arab animal, that the Emperor Napoleon III deputed one of his "horsey" generals to Africa on an elaborate inquiry and to select stallions and mares. His report embodied much curious information from native sources and was translated into English some twenty-eight years ago. Notwithstanding, the Arab horse lost character in the European sporting world, until the appearance of Mr. Wilfrid Blunt. This gentleman, since so famous as the friend of Araby Pasha, and afterwards of India and of Islam in India in particular, and now a martyr, by self-election, of Irish politics in Tullamore gaol—first came to notice as the champion of the Arab horse. This long sojourn in the East and wanderings among the desert tribes in the Asiatic dominions of the Sultan, had given him opportunities for observing the fleetness and, above all, the enduring qualities of the native horse, and filled him with quite a Moorish enthusiasm in favour of the noble animal. At last, he came to regard it as his mission to procure justice in the Western world to this noble companion of the lonely Bedouin—the camel, however useful and even indispensable, is but a beast of burden, and withal a savage at best and uncompanionable. He sunk a fortune in importing a considerable stud and breeding in England and made himself hoarse with the ad-

vocacy of the Arab cause, but to little purpose. His active restless countrymen admired the solid qualities of the foreigner, but stuck to the native. Mr. Blunt's horses fetched no proper prices. He still maintained his point and his stud, keeping up breeding as far as the disheartening coldness of the British turf would allow.

He again visited the East in search of horses, but was drawn by the stress of politics to the cause of the Eastern man. A Conservative at home, he espoused Liberalism in Egypt when English Liberals were down on Young Egypt. He nobly stood by his friend in need and was instrumental in saving Araby's life. When all was up with the National Party in Egypt, and its leader was deported to Ceylon, he followed his friend to the Farther East and travelled through India. There, though chiefly drawn by men, he did not neglect his old love. His observation and enquiries seem to have strengthened his Turkish and Egyptian experiences. Unlike other tourists, who love the Europeans' curries, not wisely but too well, and get such glimpses as they are allowed of the poor Indians through spectacles of their Anglo-Indian hosts, he cultivated the natives. He fell among a people whose regard for the horses of Arabia has passed into a national proverb. It is the same in all parts and provinces: on this head Bombay and Bengal, the North and South, are all of one mind. In the Western Presidency and in Hyderabad in especial, his expert eye feasted on the finest Arabs and Indo-Arabs. The embers of his old zeal must have kindled afresh. He had never confessed himself beaten in the experiment of demonstrating the superiority of the Arab. But if his stud had never been closed, yet under the freezing discouragement of the British public the breeding must have been much restricted, specially during his absence. On his return from India, there seems to have been a revival. His hope of ultimate success too has revived. At length, he is understood to have made some impression on some horse-fanciers. Within the last few months, some horses from his establishment have sold well.

This popularity of the Arab may be but a temporary reaction. There is scarcely a chance of this breed recovering its old place in the Western world. On the turf, the English horse will probably always maintain ground. We have a suspicion that, for active service in the field, the Arab is a more economical investment. But, we fear, the breed does not get fairplay. Not only is the partiality of the British in favor of their own against it, but probably vested interests will always be in the way. At any rate, English breeders, who are the leading sportsmen, have in their hands the making of opinion, and the power of opinion frequently proves superior to the logic of facts. Racers do not make the best chargers, yet, after all, the turf naturally governs the War Office in matters of horseflesh.

In India, the official faith in the English horse is unshaken. Mr. Hallen, the chief of Government experts, still believes in the Norfolk stallion, and 12 such trotters were ordered out during the year ending 31st March last. He knows that the native prepossession is in favour of Arab breeds, and that many Europeans in this country are of the same view. But he holds that the experience of the fairs and exhibitions of the year, proves that the longer and more powerful horses were the issue of Norfolk sires. There were at the end of the year, in the Government Horse breeding *dépôts*, 421 stallions, or 299 in Bengal and 122 in Bombay. Of these,

12 Norfolk trotters and 8 thoroughbreds were brought out from England and 55 stallions procured in the country. Mr. Hallen had been to Beluchistan on a professional tour, and reports enthusiastically of the country as a field for horse and mule breeding.

UNIVERSITY REFORM.

THE intelligent and educated classes of the Indian communities, having repeatedly, through accredited organs and assemblies, declared their adhesion to the principle of representative Government, we beg earnestly to draw the attention of all concerned to the desirability of recognising that principle in the administration of the affairs of the Indian Universities. The Western institutions, after which these Universities have been modelled, are, for the most part, self-governing, and the products of the Indian Universities have furnished the most zealous and intelligent supporters of all systems of Local Self-Government introduced by the British in India. The laws of the land recognise this by the anxiety to confer special electoral privileges upon graduates. The graduate has indeed been the greatest political missionary, the advanced guard in freedom's fight—parochial, provincial or imperial—and as the days advance and the old lights of the pre-university period dim and disappear, the graduates will more and more monopolise the position of the men of light and leading, who in every country and clime exercise a great deal of influence upon the course of public affairs. Is it then too much to ask that these men should, in their corporate capacity, be endowed with a voice, however feeble or partial, in the management of the educational affairs, in which they are the most competent to judge, and wherein they have almost all a personal stake, seeing that every educated man cannot but do his best towards giving a similar education to his children? With vast and wide-reaching schemes of Local Self-Government created by statute for even the rural populations, there can hardly be a question as to the fitness of the graduates for the reception of franchise rights. If they are unfit, what other class in the country can be called fit for the exercise of the privilege? In number, they can be counted by the hundred in the case of the older Universities, and therefore offer a sufficiently wide field for experiment. From the point of view of political expediency, there cannot be any doubt that a system of representation would relieve the Chancellor, in other words, the Government from the difficult task of appointing Fellows for the Universities—annually increasing in delicacy with the rapid increase in the number of educated men in the country—and getting rid of the public discontent caused by every case of supposed or actual bad selection. Of course, at starting, the appointment of Fellows was necessarily with the Government, although, as remarked by the *Times of India*, the result has not been altogether satisfactory, men being often admitted to be members of a reputed learned body solely on account of their wealth, their social position, or, mightiest of all, their powers of solicitation. The experience on this side of the continent can suggest equally pertinent examples. The growth made by the graduates in number, education and public spirit, justifies a claim that the Universities should begin to be relieved of their swaddling clothes and leading strings. There is no need for taking any revolutionary step like disbanding the existing Senate and making over the whole control of the University

to the nominees of the graduates. A Bill of a tentative kind is already before the Bombay Council, whereby a certain number of Fellowships would be recruited through election by the graduates. Is it to be said that the graduates of the Calcutta University are less fit to be entrusted with a similar privilege or that the educational interests over which that University presides, are of a less important character? This is not the case, to our thinking, and we are deliberately of opinion that a similar measure should be introduced for the gradual reorganization of the Calcutta University. That body has, of late, undergone a distinct process of deterioration, and a process of natural selection by constitutional means is the best restorative. The scheme for the constitution need not be complicated. It would be sufficient that the principle were recognised and a beginning made, which contained within itself the seeds of future continuation. It would, for instance, be easy to provide, by a short statute, that one-half of the future vacancies caused by death, resignation, absence from India, or otherwise, should be filled up by election, none but the holders of high degrees in each department of learning (M. A., M. D., etc.,) being eligible for election, the graduates of the University residing in India composing the electorate. The subsidiary rules for the election might be safely left to the existing Senate; and the remaining half of the vacancies left to be filled up as now by favor of the Chancellor.

SIR A. LYALL IN THE INDIA COUNCIL.

THE appointment of Sir Alfred Lyall to the seat left vacant in the Council of the Secretary of State in England by the demise of Sir Robert Montgomery, cannot fail not only to astonish but disgust the whole Native community.

There cannot be a shadow of a doubt in the minds of any unprejudiced man, that Sir Alfred Lyall, both as Foreign Secretary and as Lieutenant-Governor, was an utter failure. What had he done to merit what ought to be reserved as the rich reward of at least true good service to the state, if not glorious achievement? He is doubtless an accomplished man, but smart postasters and students deep in comparative demonology do not necessarily nor usually make good administrators or safe advisers in state-craft. We can recall no liberal measure distinctly emanating from him, but remember many things to his discredit. He began his official career in a bad spirit. The dealings of an Indian officer with those staunch supporters of the cause of Order and pioneers of Indian progress, the educated classes of the Bengali race, are an unfailing indication of his stuff. Sir Alfred employed his whole power and influence as a Political to keep the Bengali out of the Native States. And he retained his prejudice and maintained his disloyal policy to the last. Even as a literary man, he has left no noble words to compensate in some measure for a long course of ill-doing. India has, in a very great measure, to thank Sir Alfred Lyall indirectly for the imposition

of the Income Tax, for it is a well known fact that the Empire owed the Afghan campaign to the blunders and mistakes of Sir Alfred Lyall when he held the portfolio of the Foreign Office.

Again, throughout the whole of the Laidman-Hearsey case, Sir Alfred Lyall clearly proved that he did not know what true honor and honesty was, and was ready to sacrifice the good of the country, the welfare of the natives over whom he was placed to rule, rather than permit the offences of an individual of his own Service to be brought to light. His sense of justice in the whole matter clearly shews what an amount of judicial obliquity must have actuated all his proceedings. And this is the man the Government have thought fit to make one of the Council to advise and check the Secretary of State! Well may the country look to his appointment to the Secretary of State's Council with both astonishment and alarm!

But the country, in a very great measure, has to thank itself for the result. For if it had only afforded a proper amount of support to Captain Hearsey, the Government, in the face of the evidence that would have been adduced, would not and could not have dared to appoint him to that post. Captain Hearsey wished, in order to clear up all matters concerning the notorious Resolution, to prosecute Sir Alfred Lyall criminally, but the Viceroy, at the solicitation of that Lieutenant-Governor, refused flatly to grant his sanction. Doubtless, the bugbear of reasons of state was held *in terrorem* before His Excellency by an Oligarchy of officials who in Rome would have vetoed against Cicero's prosecution against Verres, and in London against the impeachment of Hastings. It was then that Captain Hearsey purposed to prosecute him civilly. As such an action would be a most expensive one he called upon the nation to assist him in a cause which really and truly was theirs, but met with no response whatsoever, although the matter was warmly urged by the independent press. There is only one way by which this appointment, so dangerous to the aspirations and wishes of the whole Indian community, may be counteracted, and that is by furnishing Captain Hearsey with sufficient means to prosecute this autocratic satrap criminally before the Queen's Bench in England. Here he will find no shield and protection from his former official position in India. In fact, it will, before any honest English Judge, militate against him especially in so much as he was guilty by his audacious Resolution in insulting an honorable member of that bench, because he would not comply with his wishes and find an honest man guilty who was not. What are a few thousands to India's millionaires? Any money expended for this purpose would be well laid out by the nation, as it would prevent any Provincial Head or other high official from abusing his office in the way Sir Alfred Lyall did.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

AIMLESS EDUCATION.

Holloway's Pills.—Factory Operatives and Workers in Manufactoryes.—The remarkable remedies which have been discovered and perfected by Thomas Holloway, and which have for more than forty years been successfully used in every quarter of the globe, are especially useful in all the manifold ailments which afflict those who by reason of their occupations are confined for years, or all their lives, in crowded buildings and workshops. Holloway's Pills and Ointment are associated remedies, the former restoring the vital powers when diminished, and always acting as an efficient blood purifier, whilst the latter relieves local maladies, checks inflammation, and acts as a cleansing and healing agent in cases of bad legs, bad breasts, ulcers and unhealthy sores of all kinds.

"What is the object of your life?" asked a gentleman who was on a visit to a college of a student of it. The boy was at a loss, he was not ready with any answer, but after a few moments' consideration he extricated himself from all difficulties—he was foolish enough to say that his father knew what he would make of him. The boy in question was a distinguished student—and hopeful boy of twenty, he was sailing on and on without any ideas of arriving to any haven, he referred to his father about the choice of his own course of life. It grieves me to think that a vast majority of our young friends who daily flock to schools and colleges are of the above type,

they are being educated without having any goal in view where to halt and take breath like a shining star.

Every individual should from his cradle resolve on what he would be, and thus with an aim prepare himself in such a way as might enable him to arrive at his goal in face of all impediments that might come across his pathway. A man without a fixed career in view is like a ship driven adrift, he does not know what to do, where to turn; victim of every random gust, he has no force of his own, he is inert.

It is a sad pity that a greater number of Young Bengal are subject to this evil, they do never think for a moment what they will do, they prosperously proceed with their academical study, come to an end of their student career, and graduate themselves.

Now the difficulties make their appearance, now the graduates breathe a new atmosphere, the thought of winning bread comes in their head, they hastily seize the nearest resource. This is no other than law. They take up law and turn advocates without ever thinking whether their genius is adapted to a vocation.

Ninety per cent. of these lawyers get little or no practice and their portion is to labour under the weight of *Pugree* till at length starvation finishes them.

Every individual has a natural bent of mind, no one should curb this, rather ought he to cherish it. Every boy should follow the innate inclinations of his mind in order that he may prove that the "child is father of the man."

I have some aptitude for mathematics, my talents are favorable to success as a mathematician. If I come to know this I should at once give up any serious thought of making myself a lawyer. It is better for me to follow my favourite pursuit. I, in no case, ought to depend on others for the choice of my own profession. Where the father is quite ignorant of the natural bent of the boy, he is utterly incapable of striking out a path for the son. The son is to find his own path in the world and the father father's. The son will have to play his own part, and he should try to attempt to do it ably and well. Towards playing well previous preparation is necessary, and previous preparation can not be expected without previous choice.

Lives of great men tell us that they toiled from their early childhood to get at the aim of their life, and without having any such aim no man has even been able to climb up the ladder.

BOSE.

A REPROOF AND A CHALLENGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "INDIAN DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—A receptacle of rejected addresses need not necessarily be a repository of rubbish, and a pair of uterine wits has improved upon the suggestion to present to all time a rich comedy of the supposed contents of the Balaam box. A vehicle for receiving suppressed matters must be useful, and is likely to be exciting or interesting. I have always admired the *Indian Daily News* for its protection to

the suppressed, faithfully publishing as it does correspondence burked by the other journals. No doubt one's philosophy and equanimity are put to a severe test when self is in question, yet I think I have good reason to complain of your conduct in allowing in your Saturday's issue a correspondent to attack a "contemporary." It is idle to whine of etiquette or professional courtesy where community may be disowned. For I can scarcely imagine a worse case of wanton outrage against, I shall not say a brother journalist, but, one journalist by another. There was no pretence for publication. "B" and his clients may be aggrieved, but the *Indian Daily News* had nothing to do with it. It was a business between them and *Reis and Rayyet*. The *Indian Daily News* had not even quoted from that paper the account which naturally displeased those persons. Their remedy lay in the columns of *Reis and Rayyet* or in the courts of the land. Nor did your correspondent allege that he had sought publication in *Reis and Rayyet*, and been refused. The matter is more serious than the contradiction of an account in a newspaper. *Reis and Rayyet* is not an ordinary newspaper. It pretends to a high accuracy in its facts as well as deliberateness in its views. It passes over many items of news rather than commit itself to something unfounded. Besides, the account in question is not only an editorial note or leaderette, but it is avowedly personally editorial, being a report of a scene at which the editor was present. Now, it is this report that has been challenged, and not only challenged, but the editor himself has been abused. Even a bare contradiction would almost have been out of place, and scarcely intelligible, in the columns of the *Indian Daily News*. What shall be said of the deliberate offensiveness of language towards another editor in which the letter is couched! Never mind, you have done as seemed best to you. We in India are accustomed to wrongs enough from our fellow subjects to be inconsolable at a scratch like this; specially as I am not, God be thanked, without the power to defend myself according to need. But the matter must be fought in your columns. Having graciously opened your columns to a gratuitous attack, you must allow a reply, and so on. Before I reply, I must, however, know who "B" is. He knows whom he has attacked. He has attacked me as Editor of *Reis and Rayyet*. If he does not know who the editor is, you may tell him. I am entitled to know who he is. Apologising for the length of this communication,—Yours, &c.,

EDITOR, "REIS & RAYYET."

Reis and Rayyet Office, 1, Uckoor Dutt's Lane, Wellington Square, Calcutta, January 7, 1887.

P. S.—17th January.—I regret that the above letter was inadvertently not sent when it was written. But the Tipperah party are still in town for any rejoinder they may think proper to give.—Ed., "R. & R."

✂ We are afraid our readers will scarcely understand what all this is about. There is evidently something in the background that would have been better dealt with earlier.—Ed., I. D. N.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION UNDER SECTION 23 OF ACT IV. (B. C.) OF 1876.

A vacancy having occurred in the representation of Ward No. 18 by the disqualification of Mr. J. G. Apar, owing to his absence from Calcutta for six months consecutively, it is hereby notified that the rate and tax-payers of the aforesaid Ward must forthwith proceed to elect a Commissioner for the aforesaid Ward. As only one Commissioner has to be elected, each person qualified to vote will, under the concluding portion of Section 13, be entitled to only one vote.

The election will be held on Monday, the 27th February 1888, between the hours of 9 A. M. and 6 P. M., at the Municipal Office. At a date not less than 21 days before the day fixed for taking the poll, a voting paper printed in blue ink will be forwarded by post to each of the registered voters.

The voter on receipt of this voting paper may—

- (1) Return it by post duly filled up to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked "voting paper"
- (2) Return it by hand to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked "voting paper"

- (3) Present it himself at the polling station on the day of the poll, or
- (4) Entrust it either open or in a closed cover at his option, to any person whom he may select, for delivery at the polling station on the day of the poll.

Any Voter who, owing to miscarriage of the Post or other mishap, may not have received his voting paper by the 14th day before the poll, may apply at the Municipal Office personally or by agent for a duplicate, putting in a written statement that he has not received any voting paper.

Voting papers on different colored paper from the original and duplicate papers referred to above will be provided at the Municipal Office at the time of the poll, and any voter who has not already voted, or who may wish to cancel his previous vote, may, notwithstanding that he has already filled up an original or a duplicate voting paper, appear at the poll and fill up a paper in the presence of the polling officer, and such vote or votes shall alone be held valid and shall cancel all previous votes.

ROBERT TURNBULL,

Secretary to the Corporation.

Dated 13th January 1888.

MAHOMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Conversazione of the above Society will be held at the Town Hall on Friday the 27th January 1888 at 9 P.M.

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Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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CALCUTTA.**OPINION OF THE PRESS.**Dr. S. C. Mookerjee, the editor of what is
undoubtedly one of the ablest papers in the
country in point of literary power is the author
of a pleasant little book of Travels in East Ben-
gal.....The author is master of a racy style of
English which many an Englishman may envy.
Humorous descriptions and caustic satire
enliven every page. There is throughout a
vigour and freshness of style that lends a
charm to the veriest commonplace. If there
were, however, a higher purpose in the publica-
tion of this book than to lighten the weary
evening hours of the ordinary reader, we con-
fess to a feeling that the author has failed in
such an object. We are afraid there is not
poetry enough in us to body forth in imagina-
tion the beauty of the scenes which the author
has described in his voyages to and fro between
Dacca and Tipperah. Humourist as he is
Dr. Mookerjee will remind us of the words of
the poet that the point of a "jest lies more in
the ear of him that hears it than in the tongue
of him that utters it." As with the jest so is it
with the description. We do not say that the
charge is unfounded. Prosaic as we are,
drudging away at the desk, perhaps it is that
we lack capacity to follow in imagination
what the author has doubtless delineated with
an admirable pen.One of the chief impressions that a reader
will receive from a glance at the book is the
somewhat strained relation between the Babus
and the Anglo-Indians. The author pours a
flood of ridicule upon the lordly airs of our
"rulers." He hits hard indeed in his account
of the Colonel at whilst enduring a Babu
looking on, when on board the steamer, and
of the whiteman's condescension in bowing to
the black nigger. Happily we in the South
are not so badly off in our commerce with the
representatives of Western civilization. In
spite of several instances of conflict and mis-
understanding Englishmen and Hindus pull
on agreeably together. But the author, not-
withstanding his involuntary feeling of aloof-

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ness from the European, is no stranger to the blessings for which the West has laid us in debt. He has a keen appreciation of the endowments of this Westernized life of ours. He looks for ever forward and casts no longing lingering look behind at the things with which we have shaken hands and parted. His heart is in the continuance of British supremacy in the East. And agitation is his utmost weapon for the maintenance of his rights. But he will have nothing with spurious agitation. We extract below a paragraph of excellent advice to his brethren of the press. [Extract.]

The author recounts his adventure with the Railway officials of Sealdah with considerable humour. We feel an irresistible temptation to quote it *in extenso*, but space forbids. How the greenback was no legal tender, why silver of the Calcutta mint was wanted and how the currency question stood stiff and frowning despite the Editors and Magistrates who had accompanied the author to bid him good-bye at the station, and how again with the advent of the Justice of the Peace all objection to receiving the currency-note vanished, are all narrated in a style that is fittingly characterized only by the word "delightful." In another place the author introduces the reader to the Hindu belief in the auspicious hour for starting on a journey in language of such playful rallery that we make no apology for quoting it. [Extract.]

The untoward circumstance of the day, the event to which we have already alluded namely the refusal of the Railway officials to receive the currency-note in payment of the fare, elicits the following humorous confession of human weakness. [Extract.]

The author has some trenchant criticism on the insolation of the Englishman, which makes him inaccessible to the complaints of extortion or plunder by their menials. They are too absorbed to know all that passes about them and the wrongs that are committed in their names are unnoticed as mere trifles for they have rarely any idea of their magnitude. It is only too well known throughout the country how blackmail in the shape of money or provisions is levied upon the inhabitants when the Collector is on tour. It would be difficult to believe the thing could go on under his very nose without his connivance if we did not know his exclusiveness and his distaste for mixing with the people.

The author devotes the greater part of the book to a description of the people and the external aspect of the country that he passed through in his two trips to Tipperah from Calcutta and back. He has a good deal to say about the customs of some of the people he becomes acquainted with. He makes a discovery of the debris of a Portuguese colony in Tipperah that has become debased in morality and sunk in superstition. Although there is not much in the book that is instructive to the serious student, the grace of diction and the ease of style carry the reader pleasantly through. It would be difficult to rescue such a subject as he has chosen from dulness without his extraordinary command of language. We cannot promise more than a brief span of life to the book. It will prove what is abundantly clear to the readers of the *Reis and Rayyet*, that the author is an adept in English composition. He is a lover of nature and he paints scenes and situations with an artist's pencil.—*The Hindu*, November 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears

to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible..... The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manner born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; the *Career of an Indian Princess*, *Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Ex-

tract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read: [Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described: [Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked white man" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this of that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1888.

} No. 308

SEBASTIAN.

A TALE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA.

[Continued from P. 26.]

CANTO II.

I

What blackened ships are they that ride
At anchor on the glassy tide,

Which Reccan's coast all idly laves?
The yards unbraced, the rigging rent,
The topsails hanging half unbent,

They seem abandoned to the waves.
Beneath the Sun's oppressive beams,
Each silent deck deserted seems,
But gazing close, are now and then
Perceived the listless forms of men,
Whose features, although dark and tanned,
Proclaim them of a Western land.

2

A sail! a sail! some watchful eye,
Ever alert for danger nigh,
Hath caught the stranger creeping near.
At once a hundred forms appear,
And throng upon the decks, to mark
The movements of the coming bark.
Nearer, it wears, and now at last
The well known signal flies the mast.
Each heart is glad, but half in doubt,
For none can make the stranger out,
And many dark misgivings fill
The bosoms of those men of ill.

* * * * *

3

There is carousing in those ships,
And wines the richest wet the lips
Of men who with their swords have won,
Here in this climate of the sun,
The costliest products of old Earth,
Jewels of price and silks of worth:
Fierce spirits from the warlike West,
Those daring souls have found a zest
In sweeping with their arms the seas
From Afrique to the Celebes:
Men who have left their fatherland,
And linked them in one desperate band,
Defiant of the law's control,
And scourging chains upon the soul;
Reckless of good, of fame, of life,
And, like the Arab, trained to strife.
And why carouse these wanderers now?
And why is mirth on each dark brow?

Another comrade they have gained,
A man who like themselves disdained
The antiquated laws that bind
Beings of less aspiring mind,
A man who might revenge, nor cared
What crimes he wrought, what danger dared,
So long as fullest vengeance got
Relieved the torture of his lot.
And sooth, Sebastian rightly knew
What arts would win that lawless crew,
How hope of spoil would warm each heart
And fit their souls for any part.

4

The wine goes round, and still they grow
More bitter at their Moslem foe,
For well Sebastian tells his tale,
Till every lip grows parched and pale.
He tells how fell by Moslem wile
Friends in many a neighbouring isle,
And how the Sultan vowed to slay
Each Lusian dog that crossed his way.
They listen to his tale—they curse,
And each succeeding oath grows worse,
And as the wine inflames the brain
Higher and louder grows disdain,
Till each is found at length to owe
Some debt of vengeance to the foe.
They linger o'er the midnight feast,
Nor pass till dawn has streaked the East
Each to his couch of unblest thought
To dream of blood, and battles fought.

5

The shades of evening are around,
The mist glides slowly over the sea,
A darker shadow shades the ground
And insects sing their song of glee.
Now, plaintive through the darkened trees
Rustles the welcome Southern breeze,
And there where lofty palm trees rise
In beauty to the dark blue skies,
Oppressed by thought Sebastian walks
Or pausing, to himself he talks.
His Guldnar is still the theme—
She comes in thought, she comes in dream,
A spirit of that lovely race
That worship at the shrine of grace.
What though the band have made him chief,
That honor cannot quench the grief
Which yet at thoughtful moments flows
For her for whom his bosom glows,
That cannot change, that cannot dim
Remembrance of her love for him.
When Hope's last ray seemed nigh,
And he had nought to do but die,

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money order if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

When dreary solitude but brought
 The misery of bitter thought,
 And dungeon walls and clanking claims
 Gave terror to the prisoner's pains,
 Her silvery voice still haunts his ear,
 His cheek still feels her burning tear :
 And that last hour of painful parting,
 When every bosom chord seemed starting,
 Still racks his heart, still fires his brain,
 And makes him half a child again.

6

In council rude the band are met,
 Unsettled in their movements yet,
 Still doubtful where to meet the foe
 And deal the fury of their blow.
 Though Chief as yet but one brief day,
 Sebastian holds unbounded sway,
 And those fierce spirits calmly yield
 A homage free and unconcealed.
 He has the art to mould their will
 And keep their pride unwounded still,
 And by the force of mind alone
 Make every heart and arm his own.
 And now attention holds each man
 As skilfully he shows his plan,
 Proves well how Sundee's fruitful isle
 If taken would repay their toil ;
 How from that spot the band might go
 In constant warfare on the foe,
 And ever have a safe retreat
 To shelter and career the fleet :
 What fertile spots were spread around,
 Where gold and grain were always found ;
 What useful tribute could be got
 From prows that daily pass the spot ;
 And how victory, wealth and fame
 Might once more light upon their name.
 He ceases, and each voice has lent
 Its clamours to the rude assent.

7

There's silence in those ships no more,
 For busy both in sea and shore
 The seamen ply their task all day,
 Nor slacken with the sunset ray.
 The silence of the night is broken
 With many an ominous token
 Of preparation for a strife,
 Whose deadly aim is human life.
 The ships are changed—no more they seem
 The shattered remnants of a wreck,
 But bright flags from the topmasts stream
 And all is life upon the deck.
 Many a rusty blade and spear,
 Corslet and casque the warrior's gear—
 Many a gun whose trusty lock
 Has answered well in battle shock,
 Are tarnished bright to be again
 The ministers of crime and pain.
 And with many a spotted brand
 Is linked many a bloody tale
 Of deeds performed in Eastern land,
 Of man's revenge and woman's wail,
 Since Gama from the land of grape
 In tempests passed the stormy cape,
 And shewed the West the ocean way
 To spicy Inde and rich Cathay.
 Each one among that hardy crew,
 Whose daring with their danger grew,
 Who, for many a bygone year,
 Had wrought the haughty Moslem fear,
 And braved the treacherous Dutchman's flag
 On ocean wave, and island crag,

Whose ardent souls seemed fiercer grown,
 And fitted more for crime
 From dwelling in a clime,
 Whose Sun was fiercer than their own,
 Had tales to tell whose every word
 With horror thrilled the ear that heard.
 And now that once again the sword
 Of warfare was unsheathed
 And every sound and sign aboard
 Of battle and of conquest breathed,
 The sultry moonlight nights were spent
 In tales of past exploits, that sent
 To many a guilty breast
 Such pangs as robbed it of its rest.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

IT is snowing hard at Darjeeling. The weather at Simla responds.

**

FROST has considerably damaged the cinchona at Ootacamund.

**

THERE have been many and heavy landslips on the camel road between Pathankote and Dalhousie. Only bullocks and mules can pass with difficulty. The road is otherwise closed.

**

THOSE interested in the Countess of Dufferin's Fund are reminded that its third annual meeting has been fixed for Wednesday the 18th February, at the Town Hall. The Viceroy is expected to preside.

**

IN his journey from Betteshanger Park in Kent to Dover, during Christmastide, Mr. Gladstone and his immediate followers were, while passing through the Priory station, snowballed, at once exemplifying the satisfaction of the Dover mob at the seasonable weather and their appreciation of the labors of Mr. Gladstone in the cause of the Irish.

**

MALTA has been granted an elective Constitution. The Legislative Council of the Colony is to henceforth consist of twenty members, under the presidency of the Governor, six being official and fourteen elected members. Here is a pressing invitation to our Indian rulers to put their own edifice in order. In default, our people will not fail to take advantage of the logic of the fresh fact.

**

IN Madras city, a Madrasi named Moorogasen, wroth at her infidelity, has cut off both the hands at the wrists of her mistress, one Mooneamah. The man is being tried for attempt at murder. It is such cases that make one wish for the revival of the old Hebrew jurisprudence.

**

AT the Ahmedabad Levée, to avoid appearing bare-footed before His Excellency the Governor, some of the Hindoo officials clubbed together, hit upon a plan and purchased a pair of English boots from the joint fund. Each of these presented themselves before Lord Reay with the same pair of English boots. In the hurry of annexing the boots, very often these dignified officials indiscriminately used them in the right and the left feet. We are not told of the ultimate destination of the boots. The pair must have been resold by auction and the proceeds divided among the joint owners. What is the thrift of Sawney beside the prudence of the canny Gujrati?

**

M. BONNET has found antipyrin efficacious in sea-sickness. He administered it in no less than sixty cases with uniform success. The dose did not exceed one gramme and a half. M. Bonnet has reported his experience to the Paris Academy of Sciences. It is the day of antipyrin. We shall not be surprised to hear that it restores lost cows. Has anybody proposed it as a cure for cholera or rabies or snake bite? If not, there is a chance for ambition—a cheap opening for a discoverer's distinction. You could work miracles with this talisman, But no time should be lost. It will do anything for you, till, by and bye, it is elbowed out of the field by a more fortunate drug of the hour.

**

LORD BRASSEY, the globe-trotter in the *Sunbeam*, who had been to India, gave, on the 25th instant, at the London Chamber of Commerce,

a lecture on the defences of the large maritime cities of the British Empire. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was present. Lord Brassey commented, among others,

"on the defences at present existing, and in course of erection, at Bombay, and the efficiency of the dockyard (?); but advised the employment of additional monitors and the organisation of crews to form a harbour defence flotilla; as Bombay, he considered, should be the chief naval station in the East. His Lordship strongly urged the formation of local batteries of Artillery, and the raising of regiments of Militia at Colombo and Singapore. These views of the speaker were fully endorsed by the Commander-in-Chief, who added that it was far cheaper in the end to make all preparations for emergencies in time of peace, instead of waiting till forced to do so by the near approach of war."

MR. COTTON and his colleagues have completed their enquires into the Irrigation scandals in Behar.

PRINCE Henri D'Orleans has arrived in Calcutta and is the guest of the Viceroy at Government House. The Prince has gone to the Sunderbuns for sport.

THE American millionaire Vanderbilt, now on a tour round the world, may take in Calcutta in his course.

THE first Criminal Sessions of the year commenced on Monday, Justice Trevelyan presiding.

THE Khyber Maliks have left the capital. Nawab Abdool Luteef Bahadoor entertained them at a *zeofut*.

WE take the following from the *I. D. News* Paris letter of the 30th December 1887 :—

"The wedding of Maurice Bernhardt, son of Sarah, the actress of wide-world fame, has been the social event of the week. It was all curiously suggestive of the levelling tendencies of the age, and extremely Parisian. It might also be regarded as the triumph of talent over tradition and convention. Sarah Bernhardt is the illegitimate daughter of a Dutch Jewess and an Englishman who lived at Havre. Her sister Jeanne is of no more lawful birth, neither is Jeanne's daughter, nor Sarah's son, who met his bride with that cousin in his mother's dressing-room on the night on which she first played in *La Torca* at La Porte St. Martin Theatre, fell in love with her then and there, and at the end of 40 days was married to her. Madame Maurice Bernhardt is *née* Princess Jablonowska, and was given the pretty Polish name of Terka at the font. Her late father was an aide-de-camp to Victor Emmanuel; her mother, *née* Princess de Bolonga, was in the household of the Duchess of Genoa, sister-in-law of that king, and caught her haughty manner. She is wrongly said to have Bonaparte blood. She is only connected with the Canino branch of the Bonaparte family, her mother having been Mdlle. Jouberton, daughter by a first husband of Lucien Bonaparte's second wife. The only members of the imperial connection at the wedding were Madame Rattazzi de Rute, whose second husband was the Italian statesman Rattazzi, and her daughter, Roma. Princess Terka became the devoted friend of Jeanne Bernhardt's daughter (also a Sarah) at Julien's drawing class, and used to be taken by her to the wings of theatres where the mother and aunt acted. Princess Terka is a piquante brunette, has the gift of gracefulness, is very pretty, beautifully moulded, small and winsome. She has the pale clear complexion of Southern Europe, with an under-glow coming through it of health and vitality, jet black hair, dark eyes, and features that would do for a cameo medallion. The course of true love in this instance has run smooth, owing to Sarah's readiness to share her last American harvest of £40,000 with her son. She halved it with him, and out of what remained to herself bought for the young couple a bijou mansion, with a large studio, wherein Maurice is to practise painting. Moreover, she gave the wedding dress, the lace on which cost £400, and pink and white dinner dresses with many other beautiful garments to Terka. The pink dress is of Chinese crape over satin. The former is embroidered and fringed with silver. The white dress is of more antique, with an over-skirt of delicate gauze. Sarah can now well afford to be generous."

THE rate of exchange for the accounts between the Home and Indian Governments, for the year 1888-89, has been fixed by the Treasury, at 17 pence per rupee.

THE Home Remittances, from 1st April 1887 to 21st January 1888, were £11,948,200, the Budget estimate for the twelvemonth being £16,114,000.

THE Irish excitement over the imprisonment of Mr. O'Brien is equalled by the feelings evoked by his release. Reuter wires :—

"Everywhere in Ireland there have been rejoicings, bonfires, and illuminations in honor of Mr. O'Brien. Banquets are also in course of preparation at Cork and other towns. Government have forbidden

a projected meeting at Kilrush, to celebrate Mr. O'Brien's release from Tullamore jail, to take place.

The great excitement produced by the enthusiastic reception accorded to Mr. O'Brien on his release, has quite prostrated that gentleman. He will attend the banquet given in his honor at Mallow, but otherwise will not be present at the numerous *fetes* that are being held all over the country. The proclamation forbidding the meeting to be held at Kilrush has been publicly burned in that town. The police extinguished the bonfires lighted to celebrate Mr. O'Brien's release from Tullamore jail."

RAO Bahadoor Mahadeo Govind Ranade, C.I.E., has been appointed Special Judge under the Deccan Agriculturalists's Relief Act. He will draw only two-thirds pay.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Yate, C. S. I., reached Khamiab on the 14th instant. Telegraphing the next day he reports the weather as still warm and fair, but threatening to break. The work of demarcation has progressed quickly and the Boundary pillars were all but completed when the telegram was despatched.

The Prime Minister of Nepal is expected to reach Calcutta on the morning of the 30th instant.

The Prime Minister of Nepal who is expected to reach Calcutta on the morning of the 30th instant, will be accompanied by one Maharani, two Generals, 12 other officers, about 100 infantry, and followers, making in all one hundred and seventy five persons.

Information has been received through the Commissioner of Peshawar of a raid having been committed on the night of the 9th instant by the followers of Hashim Ali, a Hassanzai Khan, on the hamlet of Odigram near Ghamian in Agror. Two men are reported to have been murdered and two kidnapped. It appears that the raid was committed in retaliation for the arrest of a man who is now under trial for murder in connection with another raid.

Large numbers of labourers (5000 or 6000), mostly Hazaras and Ghilzais, have collected near the Khojha Pass to work on the military road and the Khwaja Amran railway extension. A Pioneer Regiment may be employed on the work in the spring. The Political Agent in Pishin started on the 24th instant to go to the Khojha, but he was stopped by a heavy snow-storm and severe weather.

H. H. the Gackwar is expected to leave Brindisi on the 9th February.—Press Commissioner.

At Shillong, they celebrated the Saraswati Puja. The holy Ganges water and Ganges earth were specially brought up there for the occasion by Parcel Post. And the *Shondesh* and *Tilakhaja*—by steam despatch, we suppose? What is a Puja without the former delicacy? And the latter is the speciality of the worship of Wisdom. Has Civilisation made such progress at Shillong as to produce these there? Upper India, we fear, still wants these marks of refinement.

THE Court Martial on the Private at Poona, who had a simple altercation with a Lance Corporal who called him lazy and was d—d in return and told to do the work himself, has sentenced the offender to a *year's imprisonment with hard labour, and to be discharged with ignominy from Her Majesty's Service*. Talk of justice tempered with mercy! Here is justice with a vengeance! Well may the *People's Friend* be astonished that His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief of Bombay has confirmed the sentence! But then our contemporary forgets the old doctrine that what in the captain is choleric word is in the common soldier rank offence.

WE have received *An Epitome of Clarke's Geography* by Babu Charu Charan Mookerjee. The author is one of the Mookerjee Zemindars of Mozufferpore, who have established the Mookerjee seminary there, and who certainly deserve credit and encouragement in the new line of activity. The pamphlet is, of course, designed for students preparing for the Entrance Examination, and that it does not err on the side of brevity one is prepared to expect by the preface, in which it is said, rather naively, that there are many things in Mr. Clarke's excellent work which it is "impossible for boys to get by heart." The value of Mr. Clarke's book lies, however, in its copiousness, and surely it would be more valuable if it were more copious. But *cui bono*, so far as schoolboys are concerned? They must get by heart. The University system has brought them to that pass, and so long as this is the case, epitomes and abstracts shall have their day. Babu Charu Charan appears to have executed his task with care, and his work will prove useful to students by its arrangement and its condensed form.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

WE have always noted with pleasure the great strides which the Central Provinces are making in the race of political progress. This journal has devoted its attention to the affairs of that province with an especial interest, and it is with unfeigned pleasure that we have had proofs of its growing advancement multiplying upon us. The latest of such proofs is presented in the shape of an unusually able memorial which has been submitted by the Nagpore Malguzars' Association to the Chief Commissioner against the Patwari system. Indeed, the memorial is written and argued with such courage—there is so little of mincing matters, and everything is put so strongly and plainly—that one is almost led to suspect its indigenous authorship. Even, however, if it owed the excellence of its execution to European direction, that was nothing to be ashamed of. It is no small thing in our *statu pupillari* to know where to look for better guidance. It is proof of sound intelligence and true self-respect. The Patwari system is an anomaly, the officers being servants of two masters, and of course faithful to none. The recent proposition of increasing the Patwari Cess from Rs. 3 2 to 6 per cent. is the occasion of the present memorial, but a strong case has been made out for sweeping away the system altogether. It is of recent introduction, having been unknown to the Maharatta *regime*, and whatever its utility in the earlier stages of the British sovereignty, the Malguzars are now advancing in education and enlightenment to an extent to justify their being left to the unhampered management of their own affairs. The highest Revenue authorities with practical knowledge of the province, men like Sir Charles Bernard and Mr. Harry Rivett-Carnac, have put on record opinions on the subject which go to show that the system does more harm than good, and that it would be well to revert to the old Maharatta practice of resting the whole responsibility on the Malguzars. The political value of such a policy is thus set forth in the memorial :

"That the advantages accruing from placing the responsibility of the preparation and submission of the village papers solely and entirely on the village proprietors would in the long run, provided the plan was fairly tried and fostered, prove of incalculable benefit to the country at large in that it would be an incentive to the agricultural population to exert themselves and to take an active, intelligent, and earnest interest in their own affairs, instead of being dependent on the Patwari 'dry nurse.'"

In another place, they condemn it as "the incubus of the Patwari 'dry nurse' and 'go-between'" which, if the Government cared to encourage and foster, the moral revolution which is taking place amongst the landed proprietors would be swept away without hesitation.

Et tu Brute? It was, we believe, the all-accomplished Grant Duff who introduced the custom of historiographing the official tours of the Governor. There ought certainly to be a diary kept of such journeys and inspections by one of the staff, and a copy, in part if not whole, ought to be given for record and guidance to the Government. But the head of the administration ought not to be encouraged to literary dissipation at the expense of the state. There are obvious objections to the publication or even the record of Zeus's remarks on men and things. An Indian ruler may snatch a daily half hour or a full to keep a journal for regular transmission to his family or as a legacy to his children. The Marquess of Hastings left such a record, and it is a better vindication of his Lordship and more acceptable to the historian than all the official minutes of the administration or the volumes of Prinsep. But as a state paper it would have been an awkward anomaly, perhaps, a nuisance and a danger. Be that as it may, it has been an institution down South for the Governor to chronicle his tour as much as for him to undertake it; and not only so, but also to publish the account. Such is the statesmanship in the Benighted Presidency! This easy-going duettantism is government in Madras! To complete the thing, the account is not published through the official organ of Government in the country, but appears in the *Times*!

The latter is a notable innovation, but it is gaining ground, and is by no means confined to Madras. Every body affects the *Times*. Our rulers are apparently growing ashamed of us. Any Indian magnate, who has a tolerably high opinion of himself, who has any-

thing to communicate, flies to London, and first tries the *Times*. And thus the great journal is bribed to discover heroes and statesmen and successful administrators in India to the astonishment of their valets and neighbours! This is too bad. It may be true that there is no love lost between us and many of our Queen-Empress's agents. But so long as the official relation continues, there ought to be at least a show of mutual courtesy. This sort of treatment of the Indian community, is not only not fair, it is scarcely decent. If they must have the pat on the back of the London Press, let them bide their time, or, at any rate, make use of their own personal and their friends' influence; they must not sell Indian state news or papers, or the prior use thereof for attaining their fond object.

We see the *People's Friend*, which rarely misses a point, complaining, "What made our excellent Governor send the account of his last tour first to the English Press for publication? Is not Madras more interested in his work, official or otherwise, than the city of London? We are perplexed to explain the move. The chronicle is now given to the local Press after all its interest has passed by its appearance in the English journals."

There is no real perplexity in the matter; that is only a courteous vehicle for a just reproof. But really, if any Indian Governor might be expected to be above the weakness, it would be the ruler of Madras. His hearty simplicity seemed inconsistent with this sort of pettifoggery or puerility.

Let our leading brethren take care! Formerly, a paragraph in the *Pioneer* or a leaderette in the *Englishman* or a leader in the *Times* of Bombay or Madras, would have satisfied almost any ambition. Nothing short of a puff from the Thunderer will now do.

Ex Oriente lux. It is reported from Chittagong:—

"That on the 13th instant, Srimati Bidhu Mukhi, daughter of a Mukteary, Babu Juggodish Chuckerbutty, an inhabitant of Gogbaria in Thanna Putya, submitted a petition to Mr. Douglas, the Magistrate, requesting to set aside the proposal of her father to get her married to a Brahmin of low blood, residing in a village, called Kailash, in Satkama, with the expectation of getting Rs. 700 from the bridegroom. The case having been made over to the file of the Deputy Magistrate named Gobind Babu, the case was decided in favor of the lady complainant."

While in the most advanced capital of the Empire, the reformers are fighting their battle over the grievances of a brave daughter of the carpenters, here, in the other corner of the Continent in the backwoods of Chittagong, appears a veritable young Brahmani her own mistress and champion of her sex to take the obstinate old bull of Hindu Conservatism by the horns. This is the beginning of the end. And even from the point of view of truly liberal conservatism and rational orthodoxy, it is not a bad beginning. 'It is the first sign of the coming Revolution. The old order changeth, giving place to new. The most selfish of us must learn to treat his womankind with respect, when Hindu daughters have commenced to assert their rights.

Another light nearer home comes from the so-called Benighted!

Mahamahopadhyaya Sri Krishna Thatha Charya of Conjevaram has given as his opinion that a Hindu can be readmitted into caste and society, on his undergoing certain penance, for crossing the seas, and accordingly Mr. S. B. Ramaswami Iyengar of Mysore, Barrister-at-law, having submitted to the ordeal, has been accepted of his caste fellows.

WHAT is there, we wonder, in the way of the Bengal Government redressing the loss suffered by many thousands of its subjects in the district of Jehanabad, from the breach at Jankuli in the Damooda Embankment? The yearly recurring loss of human life and of cattle is not inconsiderable, while the loss of crops and of house-property in one particular year has been roughly estimated at ten lakhs and ten thousand rupees respectively. It is really a dreadful state of things which cannot be too promptly remedied. So long ago, however, as March 1886, a representation was made on the subject by the people to the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and subsequently reminders have been addressed without apparently any effect. What can be the matter?

THE latest liberality of the Bengal Government is the grant of Rs. 5 allowances to the Bistupur Rajas. These payments are becoming small by degrees and beautifully less at every decease. The Rajas must be thankful that their claim is still recognised. Let the sons prepare for the aliquots of Her Majesty's silver currency.

THE Southern Division Magistrate is entitled to the thanks of the poor respectable who abound in our community, for trying to keep the fraternity of *gariwans* straight. The other day, Mr. Reily fined a hackney carriage driver Rs. 20, for falsely prosecuting Captain Fisher, commander of the B. S. *Albyn*, for non-payment of Rs. 3-12 fare. The case against the Captain went *ex-parte*, the prosecutor being absent. The Captain complained that the *gariwan* had been on board his vessel and used provoking language. The Magistrate ordered the fine as compensation to the Captain, who wished it, when realised, to be placed in the poor-box. It is said in the report of the morning press, that the prosecuting hackney driver was in Court, but seeing the sturdy sailor in attendance with witnesses, thought it prudent to slink back. This is a well-known form of harassment and extortion. Honest people are first threatened with the Police or Small Cause Court. If they submit to terms to escape the annoyance and indignity, well and good. If not, a summons is easily obtained against them which usually conquers their reluctance to pay for nothing. If they do not appear, to answer the complaint, the cause is decreed against them with costs. If they appear, the plaintiff may be *non est*, or he may be there to provoke his victim with a pack of lies and lying accomplices. It is just possible these may deceive the bench. But suppose you win, what then? You have lost time and money, and, last not least, temper. It is these practices which give meaning to Mr. Reily's apparently extraordinary action of mulcting a cab man by (say) 40 shillings for claiming 7s. 6d. from a "fare."

TALK of Oriental vanity? Orientalism pure is modesty before the bastard Orientalism of some of the Southern Europeans, at home or abroad. The old travellers Linschoten and others notice the pride of pedigree of the Indo-Portuguese, and the passion for dress and jewellery of their women. These characteristics may be traced to this day. The great European names which are dishonored by the underserving—names which have lost their signification by being held by the lowest—may be referred to this fact. But vanity of an extravagant nomenclature seems a Lusitanian weakness through all time at home as well as abroad. The Anglo-Indians who sneer at the length of Hindu, Mussulman, or Chinese personal names, seem imperfectly acquainted with the curiosities nearer home. As a matter of fact, they are guilty of the injustice to give us Eastern dogs a bad name and hang us. They have not the knowledge nor the patience to distinguish our names from our straggling titles. They take the whole for a proper name and hasten to abuse us roundly for our barbarism. As a matter of fact, Oriental names are short if not sweet to English taste—Chinese names are often monosyllabic, as Kung, the designation of the famous statesman of the Blood Imperial. In Europe, on the contrary, the higher the pedigree of a man and wider his aristocratic connections, the more voluminous is apt to be his appellation—the longer the string of names he bears. Strictly speaking, perhaps we should say he owns rather than bears, so far at least as the more practical nations are concerned. For etiquette imposes no burden on them. The chief territorial designation or title of nobility alone is borne and suffices for use and identification—the personal name or names and rest of the territorial and titular distinctions are virtually suppressed or relegated to the safe keeping of Burke and Lodge. Not so in the South-Western Peninsula of pomposity. There the high-born Hidalgo or Don are still, in these practical days, doomed to the needless Alexanderine of a name that, like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along.

These reflections are suggested by the appointment of a new officer to the highest judicial office in the Indian possessions of Portugal. On the retirement of the last incumbent, a gentleman has been appointed glorying in a mile of a name. The Honorable Mr. Justice Jose Joaquim Borges de Azavedo Ennes has been gazetted Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Portuguese India. If his acquirements and merits bear any proportion to the volume of his name, he must be an acquisition indeed, though Portuguese India might be too limited a place for the play of such a soul—or name. If the present empire of Portugal in India can not hold a candle to the glory of the British Indian possessions, the nominal grandeur of the Portuguese High Court of Judicature beats the British judiciary hollow. The Chief Justice of Upper India has a name of Chinese simplicity. Our Chief of Lower Bengal rejoices in a worthy polysyllabic appellation 3+2=5. As far as surname is concerned, he beats his very Hindu colleagues hollow. Ghose is a

farthing rush-light—Mitter is a tallow candle—to the cumulative effulgence of Petheram. In Christian name, however, strange as it may sound, the Christian is no match for either of his Hindu colleagues.

IN Germany, they have introduced in the Reichstag two Bills, one proposing changes in the constitution of the Landwehr and the other for a loan of 280 million marks to carry out the changes.

FOR theft of luggage on the Jubbulpur platform, Mr. Justice Straight of the Allahabad High Court has sentenced a fitter Adolphus Woods of the Nagpur Railway, to two years' imprisonment.

To meet the Burma drain on the Indian exchequer, Government have added three strings to their fiscal bow. They have imposed the Income Tax, raised the salt duty by 25 per cent. and again mean to make petroleum dutiable by an *ad valorem* of 5 per cent. The official explanation for the last increase in revenue is the deterioration of Rs. 1,420,000 on the last Budget estimate, made up of

Exchange	...	...	...	...	720,000
Railways	...	...	...	...	400,000
Opium	...	...	...	...	300,000

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1888.

THE TOWN CORPORATION IN COUNCIL.

A DECADE of the elective municipal franchise in Calcutta, has wrought quite a revolution in the attitude originally held towards the new system. What a change has come over the spirit of the dream! The ablest and best-informed member of the vernacular political press in Bengal, the *Nababibhakar* and *Sadharani*, has lately reminded the public of the genesis of the municipal franchise in Calcutta, and recounted the story of the struggle, in which the constitution of the present Corporation had its birth. And what a strange history it all now appears! Without a breach of confidence, we may now say that, in the consultations which we had with Sir Richard Temple and Sir Steuart Hogg on the chances of an elective constitution for the Calcutta municipality, it was no light task we had to dissipate the strong misgivings in the official mind as to how far the franchise which was proposed to be offered, would be acceptable to the citizens. The British Indian Association swore by the system of State nomination, and persistently opposed, through their organ, the *Hindoo Patriot*, the very idea of a popular constitution. Nor was the attitude of the Anglo-Indian community a whit more encouraging. The Indian League, however, stood to its guns, and prevailed in the end. Its views and calculations have been remarkably justified by the event. To Sir Steuart Hogg's anxious fears from the threatened abstention of respectable natives, we opposed our confident faith that all would come right on the Bill becoming law. As to the European community, we left Sir Steuart as the best judge. The Bill was passed, and there was immediately a change of front on the part of the native oppositionists. Baboo Kristodas Pal, the soul and guiding genius of the British Indian Association, the leader of the Justices of the Peace, constituting, under the former law, the Town Corporation, who, as a leading member of the Bengal legislature, had voted against constitutional reform, hastened from his final defeat to call a private meeting of his political associates and followers to consult on the next move. They were furious, but he was for putting the best face upon the matter. They remembered their angry protestations—their loudly expressed horror of descend-

ing to be their inferiors' deputies, or to sit with them as Government nominees. They were for maintaining a sullen attitude of discontent as the most dignified course. He reasoned with them on the futility of it, and reminded them of its consequence to themselves. Their power and influence in the metropolis would be at an end. He was for accepting the situation and taking as much advantage of the new law as they could. The wiser counsel prevailed in the end. The *Hindoo Patriot* at once sang truce, and, obedient to its call, the entire phalanx gradually drew in their horns, only with one notable exception. It was not without a show of fight that a few gave in at last. In one case a wellknown fellow-townsmen disclaimed so much as to register himself as a voter, and now he is one of the prominent of the elected Commissioners. Only one man retired, and he could afford to do, Fortune having marked him for her own and paved the way to a higher ambition. But even he has since registered himself. The persistence of the Anglo-Indian community was of a more determined kind, but at every succeeding election it has shown signs of weariness, till at the present moment the cry is, there is not enough of European representation in the councils of the Town corporation.

The constitutional portion of the Amended Municipal Bill, is, we take it, framed in special deference to the demand of the Anglo-Indian community for more adequate representation. Calcutta is a European city, even more than a native town, and owes its position and prosperity to European influence. It is indeed a fairly debatable question as to which community—the native owners of the land and house property, forming with the poorer classes the bulk of the permanent population, or the handful of foreign nationalities to whose temporary residence and business it is indebted for its wealth and comfort—should have a preponderating voice in the administration of the municipal affairs. Our own writers and speakers are apt to forget the other side of the shield. But it were vain to ignore the fact, and for our own best interests it were well to recognise it and seek to give our European fellow-citizens their due weight and pin them to their share of responsibility. The main factor in the matter, after Government and bound up with it, is the great influence over the fortunes of the city exercised by European wealth and enterprise—greater, indeed, than what is due to the fact of its being the capital of the Province as well as the Empire. It is European commerce, in the main, which has made Calcutta what it is. Looking at the appearance of the city also, one cannot but attribute its beauty and its comfort to the initiative of European design. It is easy to imagine what Calcutta would look like if its Municipal government were not dominated in the past by European influence—how “cribbed, cabined and confined” would be all its avenues and alleys, and altogether uncomfortable as a residence for those foreigners to whom it owes most for the value of its property and its multifarious occupations and earnings. It is therefore with much genuine sympathy that we view any proposals for bringing to bear on the Municipal administration of Calcutta the just influence of the class who are the architects of its greatness. These must live in comfort to live at all. The predominance of native ideas—the resistance of abstract notions of native rights of property and of extravagant social and religious rights—must give way to the only practical wisdom which has achieved such marvellous results in the past.

Partial as we are to the just predominance of the European influence in the Calcutta Corporation, we must confess we are not prepared to accept the almost revolutionary method by which Sir Henry Harrison proposes, in the present Bill, to secure that predominance. The elective system has no doubt its weak points. With all the good it has achieved in this city, it has not succeeded in securing the return on the whole of the best representatives of the people. No one perhaps feels this more than Sir Henry Harrison himself. At times it seemed as if a *fiasco* or a discreditable *contretemps* was prevented only by the Chairman's tact and temper. By all means, let the constitution be re-adjusted so as to secure the representation of the best talents, but the system of plurality of votes is too drastic and reactionary for this object. It cannot fail to put back the clock of progress, and we cannot too strongly urge the Bengal Council to ponder the consequences of a violent departure.

To enable the reader to understand the exact nature of the change in contemplation, we give the provision in extenso. The Sections are:—

“10. A person qualified to vote under clause (b) of section 8 in respect of any house or land in any ward, valued at Rs. 300 or upwards, shall be entitled to vote according to the following scale:—

If the aggregate annual value of all the premises owned by him in the ward is not less than—

Rs.					
600	...	...	...	1	additional vote.
1,000	...	...	...	2	“ votes.
1,500	...	...	...	3	“ “
2,000	...	...	...	4	“ “
2,500	...	...	...	5	“ “
3,000	...	...	...	6	“ “
3,500	...	...	...	7	“ “
4,000	...	...	...	8	“ “
4,500	...	...	...	9	“ “
5,000	...	...	...	10	“ “

“11. A person qualified to vote under clause (c) of section 8 as occupier of a house or houses in any ward, valued at Rs. 300 or upwards, shall be entitled to vote according to the following scale:—

If the aggregate annual value of all the houses occupied by him in the ward is not less than—

Rs.					
600	...	...	...	1	additional vote.
1,000	...	...	...	2	“ votes.
1,500	...	...	...	3	“ “
2,000	...	...	...	4	“ “
2,500	...	...	...	5	“ “
3,000	...	...	...	6	“ “
3,500	...	...	...	7	“ “
4,000	...	...	...	8	“ “
4,500	...	...	...	9	“ “
5,000	...	...	...	10	“ “

A person living in his own house is entitled to the votes assigned to him as owner as well as to those assigned to him as occupier.

“12. A person qualified to vote under clause (d) of section 8 shall be entitled, if he holds a license under class IV of the third Schedule to as many votes as there are Commissioners to be elected, if in class III to one more vote, if in class II to two more votes, and if in class I to three more votes.

A person may give as many votes as he is entitled to under clauses (b), (c), and (d) of section 8 combined, up to a maximum of 10 additional votes in any one ward, but under no circumstances shall any person give more than 12 votes in any one ward, or 11 votes when there is only one Commissioner to be elected.”

The majority of the Select Committee quote some English precedents in support of these provisions in their report, as follow:—

“It has been the rule in England to recognise the plural vote in measures of local self-government. In the Parish Vestries as constituted by 53 Geo. III, c. 69, and 59 Geo. III, c. 12 and c. 85, the rate-payers can give from one to six votes, a vote being given for every £25 of rating. In the most important unit of local self-government, the Union as constituted by the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1834, the governing body consists of the resident Justices, who are nominated by the Government, and of guardians elected by the rate-payers; one vote in the election of guardians is given for every £50 of rating up to a maximum of six votes. Similarly in the urban districts, constituted local government districts under the Public Health Act of 1875, the members of the Board are elected by owners and rate-payers, plural votes up to a maximum of six votes being allowed: one vote for every £50 of rating.

It appears, therefore, that whether the practice hitherto obtaining in Calcutta is looked to, or English legislation, there is ample precedent for allowing plural votes; but the Committee base their decision far more on the intrinsic equity of the principle and its extreme importance in the best interests of a city such as Calcutta. It is difficult to conceive that it can be seriously contended that a person who just pays

Rs. 25 is entitled to an equal voice in the election of the Commissioners with the large commercial houses which are the chief factors in the prosperity of the town, or that a landlord of many of the largest and most heavily-rated houses in the town ought to have his vote balanced by that of a clerk in an office living in a house rented at Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 a month. Although the effect of this proposal will obviously be to assist the European community somewhat in election contests, as they on the average live in much more heavily rated houses than the native rate-payers, the Committee do not consider that it will make any very material difference in the nationality of the Corporation; nor do they mainly adopt it on that ground. In general the wealthier Europeans will be voting in the same ward with the poorer Europeans, and the wealthier natives with the poorer natives; but the Committee consider that the quality of the persons who will become candidates for election will be everywhere improved. If the one-man-one-vote principle is adopted, the Committee consider it certain that as the poorer rate-payers who will everywhere be the majority, learn to use their power, the status of those who present themselves for election will gradually but inevitably decline; while if wealth is given its due weight, better and more influential persons will be willing to offer themselves for election. The Committee hope that on fuller consideration the Association will see that the remedy which they suggest would be even worse than the disease, and would lead to precisely the opposite result to that which they wish to attain."

This is handing over the government of the town affairs to the hands of the plutocracy, and mainly of the European plutocracy. With all our confidence in European guidance, we must confess to the danger of making it unquestionable master of the situation. The Europeans in Calcutta are at best but birds of passage. They are constitutionally apt to take fire at an idea—to be carried away by a panic. A lady in high life falls ill and anon a cry is raised for extravagant schemes of sanitary improvement which could only be carried out by leaving heavy burdens on the shoulders of posterity. At one time the sanitary rage is against vegetation, till orchards are denuded of their valuable growth of years' fostering care, and as the years pass, the pendulum has oscillated to the other extreme, and we have these carbon-exhaling enemies of life crowded in all manner of places, till they invade the bed chamber itself. The impulsiveness of the European mind is in marked contrast with the stolid passivity of our countrymen. But though the natives are slow, they are sure. They are neither obstinate nor stupid. They are eminently docile—quick to learn. Perhaps, there is no race of man so amenable to reason. They are not the same that they were fifty years back, and in another dozen years they will be still better. The problem in municipal, as in national representation, is to find out the men.

✕ LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

A LAY SERMON TO THE NEW REPRESENTATIVES.

In another few days, the elected and appointed Municipal Commissioners in the country—those who owe their office to the people's choice or the confidence of Government—will proceed to exercise their valued right of electing the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. On the last occasion, in not a few cases, their predecessors had waived to exercise this franchise in favor of the Government initiative. Let no similar blunder be made now, unless there be any grave exceptional necessity for it. The non-official chairmanship is the most valuable part of the system. Upon that hangs the life of Local Self-Government. The liberal European press has its eyes on how our countrymen show their appreciation of the boon. We have always held, and often had occasion to express, the views which, in Friday week's issue of the *Statesman*, our contemporary has seasonably published on the subject of municipal administration. Nothing can be more true than that the quarrels and dissensions, which have unfortunately marked the conduct of not a few municipalities, should not be turned to political capital and any of several arguments whatever against the new system of Local Self-Government. They are but an

inevitable stage through which it must pass, and effectively train itself for better things. That stage was not unknown in England, and Local-Self-Government there, old as it is, is not still free from some of the incidents at which our wise-acres stand aghast, and significantly shake their heads. Indeed, as our contemporary observes with true insight, the outbreak of faction itself is a proof of the vitality of the elective franchise, and, if the system is of value, chiefly as an educational instrument, it should not be hurriedly laid aside from impatience at what must be the necessary incidents of the early stage of every educational movement. Holding this view as we do, we must emphatically call on our countrymen to show their appreciation of the right they have received by sticking to the non-official *régime*. In those municipalities, where, on the last occasion, from faint-heartedness, they omitted to tust themselves to non-official Chairmen, let them retrieve their ground now. Disorders will happen in the best regulated households, and order is then only stable when it evolves itself out of chaos. Let them take to heart the lessons taught by history, and they will find in the words of the poet-laureate,

All the past of Time reveals,

A Bridal Dawn of thunder-peals,

Whenever Thought hath wedded Fact.

There has never been any durable progress but as the result of a struggle—at the expense of persecution and suffering. The reformer's path has never lain through roses, and, as in nature, so in politics, a storm only leads to a lasting calm. Viewed from this point of view, the factions which have raged in our Municipal Councils, ought not to be any surprise, or viewed with any apprehension. Worse things might take place without disturbing our equanimity. Evil as they are, have they not their uses in the economy of life? have they not already taught experiences of value? The worst of them is where they had a personal origin, but man never rises to a conception of public duties except through the narrow limited notions of personal interest. Altogether, there is no reason for faint-heartedness, and we trust the present occasion will not find our local bodies wanting in their duty.

Our faith in Local-Self-Government is the more confirmed by one redeeming fact. Notwithstanding personal differences and faction-fights, the cause of municipal improvement has not suffered anywhere. On the contrary, from all the information available to us, the municipalities appear to have made wonderful strides of progress, and the work of the last three years favorably compares with that achieved under the official *régime* in the past years. In this, the result has only been a repetition of what has happened in Calcutta during the operation of the elective system. No better authority than Sir Henry Harrison could be cited for speaking on this point. Sir Henry is not blind to the weak points of the elective system. Indeed, it is in his very condemnation of the parochial spirit induced by that system that he is bound to bear unequivocal testimony to the good in detail that it has at the same time done in the shape of town improvements. In one of his speeches in Council, in referring the Calcutta Amended Municipal Bill to the Select Committee, he said:—

"One objection he had to the present system of election was that its tendency was to give just the same type of men for most of the wards. In each case the ward elected the same type of Commissioner, some one who would give attention to its affairs. Hence the large amount of attention which was now given to the small wants of the inhabitants. In that respect he must say that the amount of good work done by the Corporation had been enormous. They were always being plied with

suggestions for small improvements, which affected perhaps the convenience of a few hundred persons residing in the ward, such as making a path here, rounding off an awkward corner there, constructing a bathing platform in a third place, and small matters of that kind. The local convenience of the inhabitants had been studied a great deal, and as the result, it was hardly too much to say that various parts of Calcutta had in that way been improved in the course of the last few years to such an extent that the value of land had been at least doubled. Whilst on the one hand the Commissioners had done what their constituents expected them to do, viz., look after their own small wants, there was, he feared, no doubt that the spirit of the Corporation had been too parochial. That had been the difficulty. If a person had studied the constitution of the municipality scientifically, *a priori*, he would have anticipated the very defect which experience had revealed, viz., that whereas all small matters of local interest would receive the greatest possible attention and the greatest possible encouragement, on the other hand the larger requirements of the town would not receive equal attention. That was a result which must be expected if the Council could not see their way to get men to represent anything but small local areas, who would mainly look after their own local interests, and when elected would consider that they best discharged their duties by looking to the special wants of their wards. He at one time suggested that the town should be divided into larger wards, with a larger number of members to each ward. This suggestion met with but little support. It was curious to see how the same view prevailed in other places. In Bombay, where they had larger wards, the executive were most anxious to retain them in the new Bill; but one of the recommendations of the Corporation was to divide the town into smaller wards, so that each Commissioner should represent the wants of a small body. That showed a natural feeling that they preferred to have more clearly defined wants of small bodies to represent, and be brought nearer their constituents—a very natural wish and very good up to a certain point. It showed the same feeling there also on the part of the officers of the Corporation, who wished to obtain Commissioners with wider and broader views. Probably or possibly something between the two might be done which would be an improvement—a certain number of members to represent local wants and a certain number to represent metropolitan wants. This was a matter on which it was impossible for him to do more than to express a general opinion, and he presumed the Select Committee would take care to consider whether any improvement could be made, or whether, looking at all the difficulties and objections to any other course, they would think it best to leave the constitution of the Corporation as it was at present framed."

The above observations have a general importance, and may well be pondered by members of our country municipalities. Our present object, however, in referring to them, is to show that the parochial spirit which is at the bottom of much of the dissensions which have arisen in the mofussil municipalities, is not an unmixed evil. It has its good side too. These municipalities have, like the metropolis, benefited from the closer local attention to details brought to bear upon their affairs by the elected representatives. They have likewise been advanced in matters of broad general interest under the non-official system, which, in respect of local knowledge and patriotic feeling, must always have an advantage over official administrators.

MOKANNA UNMASKED—BY HIMSELF.

SIR LEPER GRIFFIN must look to his laurels. He has been cast into the shade by a greater ogre. The Avatar of the hour is a Mahomedan. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has blown his counterblast to the Congress. By a single speech, the new Prophet, though an old enough man, has constituted himself a nine days' wonder. That Lucknow speech was studiously acrimonious. It has failed, however, of its purpose—it has not provoked an acrimonious retort from the Bengali press. The tirade against the National Congress and the Bengalis, has been received with the proper attitude—that of dignified forbearance. Therein is sore disappointment to the eager assailant. Not that he will go without his *kudos* from his Anglo-Indian friends, whom he evidently wants to please. His oration will be hailed in particular political circles, here and at home, and not a little augment, if possible, the popularity and reputation which he already enjoys. And, indeed, it is no wonder the words of a man of the hon'ble Syed's position and fame should command attention and respect. But if the truth must be told, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has been a much over-rated man. We have no disposition to withhold him his due. He is possessed of great natural parts, which have been embellished by Oriental culture, as well as strengthened by great practical experience of men and things. But after giving him his due, and even more than his due, we must say he has never had the intellectual equipment for the arena of speculative politics. Indeed, politics has never been his line. The duties of a judicial officer in the N. W. Provinces, did not give full occupation to

his active mind, and so he commenced authorship. It is only as a practical educationist, however, that, to the knowledge of the European and English-speaking public, he has held a position of some eminence in the ranks of Indian notabilities. His Alighur Institute is at once the monument of his energy and the stepping stone to his ambition. But a successful educationist or even an indifferent author, who aspires to be a reformer, is not necessarily qualified for the rôle of a politician. The initial outfit in knowledge and thought for the business of practical politics, not to speak of eloquence even the warmest admirers of the hon'ble gentleman would claim for him. And the consequence is what might be expected. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has continually been tempted to what in his ignorance he conceived to be an easy rôle, but he has never dabbled in political discussions without presenting a sorry figure. He has always been fascinated by the notions in vogue—the idea of the hour. His sensitiveness to all the chances and changes of the political thermometer—the gusto with which he has always taken up every prevailing cry—his floating with the current of opinion—all betray not only original defect of education, but inherent inaptitude for grave problems of statecraft.

Thus we find him rapt in wild admiration of everything English, the moment he sets foot on English soil. Not of course that the sights and scenes to be met with in that land—its institutions and comforts—are not enough to extort admiration, but one having previous knowledge of the country and accustomed to thought, would be more soberly impressed, and be far from bursting forth into revelations of extravagant zeal.

Consistency of opinion can hardly be the effect of such preparation. In his present diatribe against Bengalis, Sir Ahmed has betrayed wonderful forgetfulness of his past attitude towards that devoted people. In his visit to Lahore, in 1884, he paid a glowing compliment to the Bengalis, calling them the pioneers of Indian progress, the lachet of whose shoes the other Indian races were not able to unloosen. But the Bengalis have now fallen into disfavor with a class of Indian society and the fashion has set in of playing off one race against another. Nothing so opportune now, therefore, as to fall savagely foul of them, without heeding the glaring inconsistency involved in the transition. But the most extraordinary thing in the antecedents of this respectable old fogey is that he commenced as an ardent political reformer. The National Congress itself is only now wearing with triumph his cast off weapons. Before many of our agitators were born, the Syed had fought the battle for native representation in the legislature. He had even talked of a Parliament in India. It would be a curiosity to unearth his pamphlet. That we are not talking nonsense, we call the present Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces to witness—who, in his junior Civilian days, gave his friend the honors of an English translation. And now the successful weather-cock turns his back on his nobler self, for the purpose of reviling the very Bengalis who taught him his political primer. At any rate, Sir Ahmed cannot complain, if those whom he has so furiously denounced should appeal from Philip drunk to Philip sober, and quote chapter and verse to convict him out of his own mouth.

We have made the above observations with the object that undue importance should not be attached to the vaticinations of a seer who is not certain of his own mind for any length of time. Syed Ahmed is but a practical educationist, and whatever his claims to respect as such, he has no right to pose in the higher character of a politician. He has achieved the object he had in making his Lucknow speech—notoriety. His speech is the great topic of the day, but beyond that it should command no serious attention.

It is perhaps as well that the Syed has burst from his disguise. Nobody who knew anything, mistook who it was that inspired the fulminations of Mr. Beck. The veiled prophet of Khorasan has now thrown off his mask, and it is as well we should calculate him as an open enemy and an enemy of every good cause. His opposition itself may, however, be taken as the surest test of a righteous cause, and it is only when that cause has succeeded that the Syed may be expected to come round. But the importance of anything coming this quarter should not be exaggerated. The plain fact is the Syed should not be regarded as a representative of Islam. This may not be so generally known, but he is no Mussulman. With his thirst for notoriety, he proclaimed himself a Wahabi, but, for some years past, he has abandoned the last shreds of the faith, and at the present moment, there is not a good Mussulman in all India who does not revile and curse him.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

SATYABALA V. HARIDAS.

I have often heard it said that there is but one law in the world, big bones and large muscles rule, the weak go to the wall. It is something to find that for once the law in question has been made a dead letter. The suit of Satya Bala Dabi V. Hari Das Roy, which was a nine days' wonder during the last few months, a short account of which appeared in a recent issue of *Reis*, leads me to the above remark. Baboo Hari Das must be said to have been in the paradise of fools in supposing that he would be able to catch an old bird like the veteran Sub-Judge of Nuddea with chaff: the bruised reed has not been broken, on the contrary, the All-merciful has tempered the wind to the shorn lamb. For not only has Mr. Roy been called upon to disgorge the estate of his young widowed cousin-in-law, valued at a lac and a half and sold for Rs. 3,400, but has had to be out of pocket to the extent of Rs. 1,500. Verily he went for wool but has come home shorn. For, seeing that the Zemindars of Santipur are now only a wreck of their former selves, Baboo Hari Das can't afford to laugh off the loss as a mere flea bite. Hari Baboo, though he has lost the case, has, however, this consolation left that he has left no stone unturned to compass his ends. A good round sum was offered to the good Samaritan who took up the cause of Satya Bala, to induce him to leave her in the lurch, and even threats were held out, but he was a veritable knight-errant *sans peur et sans reproche*, and true blue, you know, will never stain. Now that the case has been finally disposed of, the order of the Sub-Judge not being appealable, it may naturally be expected that Baboo Hari Das will let bygones be bygones and make up with his cousin-in-law, inasmuch as he has reversionary interest in her property. But no, he is determined to kill the hen that lays the golden egg, and will fight out the quarrel like the Kilkenny cats who fought so fiercely that, when the battle was over, the tail of each was left.

Dame rumour has it that as soon as a short account of this unfortunate case appeared in your journal, Baboo Hari Das sent word to you, through a sturdy Vakil, that unless you surrendered at discretion on or before a certain date, he would meet you at Philippi. The ides of March have however come and gone, but you are not yet an inmate of the Presidency Jail. The impudence of an irreverent legal vulture hovering over a literary leviathan with a view to have a brush with the latter, is no less phenomenal than that of the gnat in the fable who was settled on the horn of a bull and inquired of the latter if he would like him to go. You, Mr. editor, are no respecter of persons and are nothing if not critical, and, as such, are a positive nuisance. In spite of the oft repeated cant of "not men but measures," you omit no opportunity of mercilessly exposing our big folks, men who are saints abroad and devils at home, but who pass muster as gentlemen, every inch of them, simply because distance lends enchantment to the view. "Could great men thunder as Jove himself does," you would have to shut up shop.

NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS.

AN EXPLANATION.

SIR,—A word of explanation about the mistakes that unfortunately crept in my last letter will suffice. It was written from my dictation by a school boy and sent by mistake without correction. Surely it was very uncharitable on your part to bring it out without correcting the mistakes.

A pedant would harp on the rules of orthography and syntax which every school boy gets by heart. But those who have escaped from the pedagogue's ferule can not bear to be corrected for not crossing their *i*'s and dotting their *j*'s.

Lastly, with great respect for your love of grammar and idiom, I would humbly remind you that fine feathers do not always indicate fine birds and good grammar and idiom (however useful in other respects) are no excuse for nonsense in writing.

Your old (not false to be sure) Friend,
S. BOSE.

Santipur, the 25th January 1888.

Holloway's Pills.—Nervous irritability.—No part of the human machine requires more constant supervision than the nervous system—for upon it our health—and even life—depends. These Pills strengthen the nerves, and are the safest general purifiers of the blood. Nausea, headache, giddiness, numbness, and mental apathy yield to them. They dispatch in a summary manner those distressing dyspeptic symptoms, stomachic pains, fulness at the pit of the stomach, abdominal distension, and regulate alike capricious appetites and confined bowels—the commonly accompanying signs of defective or diminished nerve tone. Holloway's Pills are particularly recommended to persons of studious and sedentary habits, who gradually fall into a nervous and irritable state, unless some such restorative be occasionally taken.

MONGHYR.

Jamalpur, January 20, 1888.

The Jamalpur High English School lately held its annual distribution of prizes, under the presidency of the chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Butler. Christmas passed off quietly, but there were children's treats, magic lantern shows, and balls and dancing parties during the new year holidays.

A new missionary from England, the Rev. E. Clifford, was here and delivered an address in the Company's Mechanics' Institute, before the European and native public, on Christian work in England and India, illustrating his lecture with magic lantern-slides, showing views taken from the life of Christ. This gentleman has come out to India, for the purpose of preaching Christianity, in connection with the Church Missionary Society and, from his account, draws very large audiences. He is really a very able speaker. The meeting here was very well attended, the room being crowded almost to suffocation.

There is an indication of slackness of traffic on the East Indian Railway.

Burglary and theft are rife again. No less than half a dozen cases have come to our notice within the current month. A Bengali Babu and a Behari have been robbed very recently of their valuable things, such as shawls, jewellery, utensils, clothing, &c., to the value of Rs. 700 and Rs. 300 respectively. This is no doubt, very discredit to the detective Police authorities. The citizens of the place are mostly of the labouring class and clerks in offices, and as a rule are at their respective vice benches and desks from morning to evening daily. The present crisis compels many of them to have no repose at night for fear of life and property. This reminds us of the olden days of—"Burgies." Should this state of things continue, I am afraid, matters will go from bad to worse. I understand that a memorial to the effect has already been made by some of the citizens of the place and forwarded to the District Magistrate for redress.

A peculiar case of juvenile prosecution or rather persecution took place here the other day. On the auspicious day of Sreepunchome Poojah, about half a dozen schoolboys in their teens, their ages varying from 5 to 8, went out to fetch flowers, mango blossoms, and ears of barley from the adjacent trees for the purpose of worshipping Ink Pots, &c., after the fashion of lower Bengal. Unfortunately, the mango trees being owned by the municipality and a Mahomedan chowkidar placed in charge, exercised his vigilance and zeal by arresting them and placing them before the chairman for orders, who fined the boys Rs. 2 and Re. 1 respectively, the older ones being fined Rs. 2 and younger Rupee 1 each, in spite of their guardians' remonstrances to the Chairman. This reminds me of an instance of appropriate leniency shown to a schoolboy by Colonel Wintle, then Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpore. A boy having a fondness for lemons, asked the gardener in a gentleman's garden to let him have a couple of them on payment, but he refused, on which the boy snatched two of the lemons from the man's basket, leaving a pice for the same, and ran away. The lad was prosecuted and brought before the Colonel, who instead of punishing him, let him off, with orders to take away as many more lemons as he wanted and to go home, and lectured the gardener, saying that a man must not eat the choicest fruit by himself without getting others to join him, especially boys, and he will be the last person to see boys prosecuted for such trifling things.

Mr. Dickson, ex-Inspector of audit and accounts, has brought a suit against the East Indian Railway Company in the High Court of Judicature, Calcutta, for damages, to the extent of Rs. 75,000, for wrongful dismissal. Several officers and native office assistants attached to the Audit Office here have been summoned as witnesses. As the case is *sub judice* now, I must refrain from making comments on the points at issue for the present. All I can say, is that the case under notice appears to be a sensational one, and is rather of an unprecedented character.

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.....this interesting book. We are justified in so saying it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"..... where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-subscribers not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible..... The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several

other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; *the Career of an Indian Princess*, *Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read:—[Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described:—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book: it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not be-

cause the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"A naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

With our author, details about petty incidents in his journeyings to and from his zemindari management are only second in importance to details as to the difficulty of getting his valuable services dispensed with when he wanted leave from his employer. He never forgets that he is a first-class classical Baboo, and a Brahman of high degree, except when he considers that it is incumbent on his character for 19th century enlightenment to sneer at Hinduism, and exalt his personal pretensions at the expense of the old religion. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's book is valuable in a way, as showing the inordinateness of vanity, and what the Yankees call 'high falutin,' at which Baboodom can arrive, when not under the supervision of superior authority, e.g., our author's budgetary and cook-boat are always referred to as a "fleet." In his preface he refers complacently to "the mere English reader." At page 31 he ostentatiously laments that he cannot run away from Court, because he would do so "at the risk of causing something of an interregnum, so to say." In a similar key the record of vaingloriousness is carried on all through the book.

"It was with the odour of New Year's Day festivities still on me," says the Baboo, "that I proceeded to my work in the far East." Somehow, this odour does not seem to have recommended itself to his fellow-travellers. On board the steamer going to Dacca, for instance, the Baboo met a British Colonel with a pretty wife." Reference to this episode is made on the 6th page of the book. On the 9th page we are introduced to "a couple of fine healthy girls, with well proportioned, nimble limbs * * * * * sitting at the edge of the water, elaborately scrubbing and towel-drying their persons, and helping to clean one another." And so on. About 9 o'clock that same morning the Baboo "cleaned the cooking utensils and plates in the sands of the beach;" and at night the boatmen on board the budgetary boat without asking the Baboo's permission, although, says he naively, "I am known to be somebody."

Here is a quotation *ex uno disce omnes*. It refers to the Rajah's dilatoriness in giving our author his congé.

"Thus from day to day, finally from morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve, and again the following morning, from an amiable inability to make up the mind—a generous indisposition to part! Far from unpleasant is this dilly dally, where there is no urgency, no peremptory call to promptitude. British employes know not this "unbought grace of life." They will probably not appreciate it. They have not the happiness of serving men, but are mere parts of a machine. *We serve flesh and blood*. The position of officials in Native States has its disadvantages; many enough to be sure; but it is not without ample compensations, and this is one of them."

Is it possible for the men of the East and the men of the West to be sympathetic in idea? Be that as it may, unless the author of Justice Onocool Chunder Mookerjee's *Memoirs* adventures again into literature, we do not think that a sillier book than Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels* is likely to appear for a long while.—*The Calcutta Review*.

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Womesh Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medical Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30th October, 1886."

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1888.

} No. 309

SEBASTIAN.

A TALE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA.

[Continued from P. 38.]

CANTO II.

8

The Southern breeze is fair and strong
To waft the hostile fleet along.
The anchor's up, the sails unfurled,
And just upon the Eastern world
The radiant dawn of day is breaking,
And rosy light and life awaking.
And is it thus, when all around
Breathes peace in every sign and sound,
When from the wood soft cooes the dove
And Heaven's smile is bright above,
When ocean murmurs with delight
And crisps in beauty on the sight,
That man can go in warfare forth,
To desolate the peaceful earth,
Or stain the azure of the flood,
With streams of fratricidal blood?
Alas! for man, whose lust and pride
With ruin still go side by side,
And there where nature smiles in bloom,
Spread wars with horrors and its gloom.

9

Who leaneth o'er the vessel's side,
Intent upon the rolling tide?
'Tis dusky eve, and in the bark
No eye the Chieftain's brow may mark,
He muses on the field of fame
And kindles at each glorious name,
Which bright tradition brings,
Of warrior chiefs and hero kings,
Nor are his countrymen forgot
Who battled on the very spot.
Pacheco, whose great deeds and wrong
Still live in Camoen's lofty song;
Young Almeyda, the good and brave,
Who fought the Pagan on the wave,
And found a Hero's gong grave,
The father who revenged the son,
And rich Egyptian trophies won,
What time o'er Dabul's princely towers
He poured in rage his iron showers,
And smote the turbaned Turk whose fire
Had childless made the hoary sire.
He mused on all—when Lusian arms
First Eastward spread their fierce alarms,
And Gama in his new found world
The Lusitanian flag unfurled.

10

Sebastian lifts his eye above,
It greets the silver star of love,
And as he gazes on that star
His musings turn to Gulánar.
Most lovely is the planet's light
And dimly beautiful the night—
A night whose stilly aspect seems
For quiet thoughts and pleasant dreams.
And are they to Sebastian given
Like welcome gleams of peaceful heaven?
Ah no! ah no! his thoughts are drear
And desperate with hope and fear,
All gloomy as the tempest cloud
Whose depths the lightning's rage enshroud.
But hark! at once the pleasant chime
Of sweet guitar and choral song,
Made lovely by the place and time,
And borne on ocean breeze along,
Like music of another sphere
The voice so full, the tone so clear.

SONG.

Over the sea, over the sea,
In sunshine and in storm ride we,
No track above, no track below,
On, like a white winged bird, we go,
Undaunted boys, undaunted boys.

ii.

Over the sea, over the sea,
When wave and wind are rough, sail we:
Our arms are strong, our hearts are bold,
And on we go in quest of gold,
Undaunted boys, undaunted boys.

iii.

Over the sea, over the sea,
With Orient gems and wealth come we:
And eyes that speak, and hearts that burn
Await once more our glad return,
Our pledges boys, our pledges boys.

ii

Another and another lay,
Sebastian hears nor turns away,
For quick his ardent soul has caught
The spirit of his comrade's thought,
And in the gayness of the hour,
And by sweet music's spell-like power
He finds his burdened heart grow lighter,
And hope the syren, smile the brighter,
Oh well the Lusian loveth song,
And even doth the sweet guitar
Beguile his woe and soothe his wrong,
And banish bitter thoughts afar.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money order if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary and likely to cause confusion.

In the deep quiet of the night
Is gained the destined shore,
And by the moon's scarce welcome light
Is seen many an anchored prore
On traffic bound, they pass these by
And steer to where no strangers lie.
All silently they moor each bark,
And well the shore's appearance mark,
Lost unseen strangers mar their plan
And spoil a work so well begun.

12

No time for rest or idle thought,
The conquest must at once be sought,
Ere break of day prepare the foe
To guard against the coming blow.
The men are armed, the boats all manned
And rowing to the silent strand,
Where nought disturbs the quiet save
The measured breaking of the wave.
All voicelessly with muffled oar
Expectant eye, suspended breath
As nerving for the work of death
They row towards the woody shore.
Another effort—now they land—
Sebastian foremost of the band,
Known by that nameless mien and look
Which shows him greater than his kind,
As though his form and features took
The hue and impress of his mind.

13

Two hundred men are on that beach,
And daring is the soul of each.
The spirit of their fathers—those
Who stood against unnumbered foes
In burning Asia and Afrique,
Who dared in unknown climates seek
Newer delights and newer glory,
To gild the page of coming story—
Is in their hearts, and nerves each hand
Among that fierce and desperate band.

14

"Comrades, look to your weapons well,
So sword and carbine may tell—
The heretics must feel to-night
The fiercest horrors of the fight,
Must learn to dread our arts and arms,
And feel a vanquished foe's alarms.
I know your hearts and that you need
No urging to a val'rous deed.
Be Albuquerque our battle cry,
And woe to every foeman nigh.
Now, by the flashing of your eyes,
And by the blood I see arise,
I know what vengeance ye will take
For rooted wrongs and freedom's sake.
But comrades brave, bear well in mind,
We make no war on woman-kind.
By Heaven! this right hand shall slay
Who hurts a woman in the fray."

15

Within the fort scarce stirs a sound,
The watchmen walk their measured round,
Unmet by any warring sign
Of coming ill or dark design.
Old Yusuff hath his pillow prest,
And each stout guard has sunk to rest,
That scarce an eye or ear's awake
To mark the coming tempest break.
The moon is up and riding high,
But dun thick clouds obscure the sky,
That faint and misty is her light,
And only at brief moments bright,

As though her soft and peaceful ray
Disdained to light the midnight fray.
The sentinel is at his post,
Nor dreams he of the coming host;
Still measures he his wonted space
With steady and unbroken pace.
But now he halts, his ear hath caught
Strange noises by the night wind brought.
'Tis but the rustling of the trees
Stirred by the rising Southern breeze,
But hark! again that sound is heard,
And more distinctly than before,
And yet no tree, no leaf is stirred,
'Tis perhaps the tide upon the shore.
But now he marks the sound again,
It nears, it is the tread of men:
The matchlock speaks the quick alarm
And spreads the signal sound to arm.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ONE Stephens, a clerk, Madras Harbour Trust, is *non est*. He was a prominent member of the local Salvation Army, and is charged with embezzling several thousand rupees of the Trust. Will Stephens have *mukti*? We hope the Calcutta Port Trust entertains no Stephenses.

MR. G. A. GRIERSON has won an honorarium of Rs. 3,000 for his "Grammar of the Languages of Behar" and "Glossary of Agricultural Terms in use in Behar." Mr. Grierson belongs to the Heaven-born Service.

PRINCE HENRY of Orleans will assuredly carry lively remembrance of his travels in Lahore and of keen appreciation of British justice in India. While in that capital, the Prince was relieved of a travelling portmanteau. The Lahore Magistrate, Mr. Kennedy, at once sent the delinquent—a Bengali—to two years' rigorous imprisonment, and three months' solitary confinement, besides ordering fifty rupees fine. We are not told whether the fine was meant for any compensation for the rude behaviour to the Prince.

THE new Principal of the Oriental College, Lahore, is Dr. Aurel Stein, a Hungarian again. He was highly recommended for the post by Dr. Rost and Professor Roth as a distinguished Sanskrit, Persian and Pélvi scholar.

HIS Excellency Maharaja Bir Bhumshere, the Prime Minister and *de facto* ruler of Nepal, arrived at this capital on Monday and had a reception at Government House on Wednesday. At the interview, the Prime Minister presented his credentials accompanied by a number of gifts, such as musk, bead necklaces, yaks' tails, &c.

THE Jam of Lus Beyla died on the 23rd January.—Press Commissioner.

THE Countess of Dufferin paid a visit to the High Court on Wednesday. Her ladyship was present only a few minutes at the Chief Justice's Court, but interested herself for two hours at the Sessions. She was accommodated with a seat on the Bench by the side of Mr Justice Traversan.

The Sessions which commenced on Monday week closed last Thursday. There was no Special Jury case, but a number of gentlemen had been warned to be in readiness for 6 mortal weeks to be present whenever an advertisement to that effect might appear. Could not this state of suspense be avoided?

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THE Egyptian Budget of the coming year is noticeable in that it shews a surplus of £24,000. The revenue of the year is given at £9,600,000.

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THE Mail brings the intelligence that a band of Montenegrin raiders, under the command of a Russian ex-Captain Nabakoff—a noted organiser of pan-Slavist disturbances—crossed over to Bulgaria and landed from a Greek ship. Their object, it is stated, was to seize the

port of Bourgas into which Slav adventurers from Odessa would have been thrown, and thus possibly to force a civil war on Bulgaria. A detachment of Bulgarian troops, however, was ready to receive them. The raiders and the leader were killed, only twenty escaping back into Turkey.

THERE was a midnight fire at the Crawford Market, Bombay. No loss of life is reported, but the damages are stated at Rs. 95,000.

THERE was a severe shock of earthquake at Quetta on the 24th January, preceded by a snow-storm of 30 hours' duration, covering the entire country from Hurnai to the Khawja Norman Range. —Murree has had a heavy fall of snow, interrupting the telegraphic communication.

THE demarcation of the Afghan boundary to the Oxus is finished, the last pillars having been built on the 19th instant.—Press Commissioner.

WE have received the following telegram from Cuttack :—

A public meeting was held yesterday (January 29th) at 4 P. M., to give a public reception to the two delegates to the last Congress, namely, Babus G. S. Roy and M. S. Das. It was a grand and enthusiastic meeting of nearly 500 persons, the Printing Company's hall and verandah were full and many men could have no access from want of space. The Oryas, Mahomedans, Bengalis, Madrasis, Marwaris attended largely. Babu Kali Pada Banerjee presided. The President congratulated and thanked the delegates. The delegates explained at great length the proceedings of the last Congress, making reference to Sir Syed Ahmed's speech and exhorted the people to agitate all over the country in a manner becoming a nation loyal to British rule and grateful to the English nation, receiving rather forbearingly than giving offence, and to raise funds for agitation in England. The meeting expressed full sympathy with the doings of the Congress.

PURSUANT to a telegram from the Commissioner of Peshawur, two "Circassians" have been arrested at Lahore, on suspicion of being Russian spies.

WE read :—

"Russia has been having trouble with its Universities and at present all the Universities in Russia proper, excepting Kieff, are closed and occupied by policemen instead of students. The disturbance spread with rapidity from Odessa to Charkoff and St. Petersburg, embracing all the institutions for higher education in those towns besides the Universities. Everywhere the cause was the same; protests against the restrictive rules now in force being met by arrests, stronger protests, and finally by wholesale arrests. The Russian Universities are indeed in a bad way just now. Founded only in the last half of the eighteenth century, they were almost suppressed by Nicholas, then petted for a brief season by Alexander II, only to be again bullied afterwards, a treatment which in the present Czar's reign has been still further developed. It is indeed difficult to reconcile higher education and the aspirations it breeds with the existing *regime* in Russia. The Universities are not revolutionary. The protests are only the protests of education against a police supervision and a system of petty espionage. But the students who are driven into the streets become the recruiting-ground for Nihilism and Revolution."

Alas for Russia!

THE French Chamber of Deputies have for the third time elected M. Floquet as their President

THE Pope is the owner of one of the largest cellars, containing, for one beverage, 50,000 bottles of champagne, made up of presents from pious or penitent Catholics throughout the world. A queer offering to a great Imam or Mohunt! the Moslem, the Buddhist, the Vaisnav and Hindu will fancy. But they know not the part that wine plays in European salvation. The priest's mantra can change wine into the blood of God as his son Jesus, and the only difference of opinion is as to whether it really becomes actual blood or spiritual or symbolic blood. The Jewish Scriptures, on which both Christianity and Mahomedanism were founded, are partial to wine. So our Vedas too. The recent Tantrik reaction also revels in insubriating drink and all sorts of sottishness. Islam has discouraged it, no doubt, but with half a heart. At any rate, it promises abundance in Paradise, with its charm increased a hundredfold in the company of the loveliest *houries*. Buddhism and Hinduism in general are uncompromising

A CARVED ivory chair, composed of 25 elephant tusks, which was being made for the King of Burma, was completed after the annexation, and purchased by a gentleman of Rangoon. It has been sent to the

Imperial Institute, London. These ivory chairs are no less beautiful than costly. There are some fine ones at Moorshedabad and at Agartala.

THE long lost *Hwang Kan* has turned up in Japan—Hwang Kan's Confucian Analects with all the ancient commentators' notes. It is 1,200 years old, and was missing in China for the last 700 or 800 years. The Chinese Minister in Japan has been ordered to borrow the copy for a careful copy thereof. An equally interesting discovery is reported nearer home. Mr. Atkinson in his parting presidential address at the Asiatic Society thus speaks of it :—

"Our Associate Member, Babu Sarat Chandra Das, is bringing out for the Society a hitherto unpublished work by the poet Kshemendra, entitled *Avadana Kalpalata*, of which we have the complete Sanskrit, with an interlinear Tibetan version in a manuscript recently acquired from Tibet. It is intended to publish the Sanskrit and Tibetan texts in parallel columns, and the first fasciculus is in the press. The manuscript is in verse and was translated into Tibetan by Lochchhava Shonton Dorje and the Indian Pandit Lakshminikara at the Vihara of Gedran Shide in Manyul under the orders of Panchhen Shakyas Ssanpo, ruler of Tibet, in 1279 A. D. The blocks from which the print was taken were engraved by the direction of the Dolal Lama Nagwan Lossan in 1645 A. D. The work consists of 108 pallavas, of which 107 were written by Kshemendra and one by his son Somendra. The copies hitherto procured and now deposited in our library and that of the Cambridge University are imperfect, containing only the second part of the work, and a fragment of the first, so that the publication of this Sanskrit and Tibetan version of the entire poem will restore to India a portion of a valuable Buddhistic work that has been lost to it for some eight hundred years. Kshemendra is said to have been the court poet of Ananta, Raja of Kashmir, and undertook the work at the instance of his Buddhist friend Nakka. It is a veritable store-house of the legends as to Buddha's life and acts according to the Mahayana school of Northern Buddhism, and is written in a simple elegant style, quite free from the turgid verbosity and tedious repetition, usually characteristic of Buddhist Sanskrit works. The arrangement of the original and Tibetan version in parallel columns should give an impetus to the study of classical Tibetan and afford an accurate basis for further research."

THE Convocation of the Bombay University, held on the 17th ultimo, was signalled by the admission of a Hindu lady to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Or should we not rather say Spinster of Arts?

THERE will be prospecting for gold in the Khassia and Jaintia Hills. The Assam Government has given permission to an English capitalist for the purpose.

A BRANCH of the Bank of Madras has been sanctioned at the town of Mysore.

LAST month, the visitors to the Indian Museum numbered—natives 39,017 males and 13,076 females and Europeans 1,444 males and 439 females, the daily average attendance being 2,342.

HERE is a revelation of the highest Court of Judicature in Mysore. Chief Judge Plumer, with him Mr. Justice Ramachendrier, in delivering judgment in the case of Hoondi Kristnama Chary *vs.* A. Ananda Row, made the following remarks :

"Considering the facts that have come to our knowledge on perusing the record we feel it our duty to make a few observations in regard to the nature of the agreements proved by the defendant. It was with astonishment and pain that we read the evidence of the defendant and of the advocates that were examined as witnesses in this case. It would appear from the evidence that the plaintiff, a money-lender, found no difficulty in persuading a few of the advocates in Mysore to becoming his debtors, on the conditions that they should conduct all his cases without previously demanding their fees; that they should be paid whatever might be decreed by the Courts; and that they should claim no remuneration for work if the decree did not award it. If this evidence was not before us we should not for a moment have imagined that any Advocate in the Province would have been guilty of such unprofessional and disgraceful conduct. We hope and we trust that this forms an exception to the rule. Such agreements are wholly derogatory to the dignity of the Bar. We trust that the observations we have made will put a stop once and for all to such objectionable agreements being made. We should feel it our duty to take very serious notice of their repetition."

We have no superstitious horror of champerty, but this is a form of it which ought by all means to be discouraged. We believe it is not unknown in British India. There is no need to be indignant over-much. Even in England, within this century, certain judges were used to be paid after the fashion of these Mysore lawyers.

AN unlettered Mussulman butcher has been elected in the late municipal election at Rampore Beaulah, to the great disgust of the

other Commissioners who meditated resigning in a body. We are glad to notice signs of wiser counsels having prevailed. A similar election has taken place at Santipore.

M. MANES, Governor of Pondicherry, goes in the same capacity to Réunion, at the end of the month. M. Nouet from New Caledonia comes to Pondicherry.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

OUR readers attending the Investiture this day will please acquaint themselves with the Military Secretary to the Viceroy's notification published elsewhere. They are reminded to take the routes to the Government House indicated, and to be at their seats before 11-45 when the gates will be closed against carriages.

THE Petroleum Bill has been referred to Select Committee.

THE Petroleum Bill has had its immediate effect—on the consumers. At Bombay, the price at once rose from Rs. 5-8 to Rs. 9, for a case of the best oil. Fresh taxation being required, Government could not choose a more appropriate article for duty. It is vain to expect that kerosine will be driven out of the market, but the less it is consumed the better for the health and lives of the people.

THE Calcutta municipal Bill or the Constitution portion was taken up in the Bengal Council last Saturday. Dr. Gurudas Banerjee objected to the inclusion of the Suburbs into the town for municipal purposes. He was afraid the taxes in the Suburbs would be trebly raised, thus driving the poor to unhealthy bustees beyond the new municipal area. A large jurisdiction itself, the learned Doctor thought, was hindrance to proper and efficient administration. Lawyer as he is, he rested his final point on separate magisterial jurisdictions in the same municipality. The Hon'ble Kally Nath Mitter said he was "pledged to support the amalgamation." Does he mean that he owes his elevation to his adhesion to the Bill? Dr. Sircar supported Dr. Banerjee, for he could not be a party to any extension of the Drainage System with its train of typhoidal fevers. We believe the Bill is not imperative on this point.

The expansion of municipal Calcutta is a foregone conclusion. Government are already decided upon it. They have agreed to bear the entire cost of the Calcutta Police, thus setting free the Police rate for improvement of the Suburbs. The amendment was, of course, lost. Other amendments will be taken up to-day.

AT Hyderabad, while in transit by post, certain examination papers, notifying the results, have been tampered with.

NARAIN SINHA and Thakur Pershad are being criminally prosecuted at Benares for attempting to obtain certificates of proficiency in the Middle Class Examination at which they did not appear.

A GREATER Examination scandal is being enquired into at Lahore. Having raised a host of creditors against himself and been found out in Bengal, Mr. Frederic de Hocheplid Larpent was quietly sent away to the Punjab—to a wider field of usefulness to himself. At Lahore, he holds the official post of Deputy Accountant-General and also managed to be pitchforked into the office of Registrar of the local University. He found the new University a very convenient place for his practices, and made them paying too. He is understood to have held out hopes of passing candidates for the University examinations on payment of prebiums. He netted a large sum that way. He could not, however, keep to his contract. Many of the plucked demanded refund of the moneys paid and received, and in some cases, small repayments were made and the balance made up in notes of hand to third parties. There was an outcry, but it was confined to natives, and the Registrar had friends. The sturdy local *Tribune* cried itself hoarse for an enquiry. A committee was at last obtained and it reported against the Registrar, but after the retirement of Sir Charles Aitchison, there was an evident reaction among the University authorities. There was an attempt to hush up the inconvenient disclosures, and for some time it

appeared that Mr. Larpent was to be let alone. But the Press was not silenced, and the *Tribune* was a host in itself. Government at last awoke to the gravity of the scandal, and a Commission under Act XXXVII of 1850, composed of Messrs. F. E. Elliot, District and Sessions Judge, Allahabad, and C. R. C. Kiernander, Deputy Auditor-General, Bombay, are at the present moment sitting at Lahore.

The charges against Mr. Larpent have been reduced to three items, namely, of receiving a bribe of Rs. 1,570 from Ram Saran Das to pass him as a Licentiate of Law, of employing Gunda Singh for inducing candidates to come to terms with Mr. Larpent for successful results of the examination, and of letting out examination questions beforehand.

Before the charges were read to him, Mr. Larpent desired the Commission to investigate them *in camera*, that he might not be prejudiced in his defence by publication of the evidence. Not an unreasonable application, though novel. The Court, however, ruled against him. Mr. E. W. Parker opened the case, and witnesses are being examined. By the time this issue reaches Lahore, the prosecution will have closed.

MR. PIRIE DUFF, formerly of this city as Senior partner of the well-known firm of Mackenzie Lyall & Co., who, having retired, had sought the honor of a seat in Parliament at the hands of a Scotch constituency, is coming to Calcutta again.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN is not likely to have an easy time of it in his new career. Nature is against him. At his very entrance into office, he is confronted by the apparition of a wide-spread food distress. In consequence of the sudden cessation of the periodical rains, the *Rubbee* crops were ruined. The prices are steadily rising. Already, they have reached a pinching point. Where in 1887 one purchased 21 seers for a Rupee, you get only 17 seers. Wheat, which sold last year at 16 seers a Rupee, is now 12 seers. The disproportion is still more striking in the other staples. The coarser rice is being sold at 10 seers in place of 15 seers in 1887. For 26 seers of grain for a Rupee it is 17 seers. Barley, 26 seers last year, is now 15 seers.

All this means deep distress throughout a vast population in the finest part of India. It will tax all the administrative capacity of the Lieutenant-Governor and all the resources at his disposal to meet the growing disaster.

COMMERCIAL estimates are not more reliable than Finance Ministerial forecasts. If the out-turn of a single valuable and limited produce like Cinchona within a limited area like the cultivation in a compact island like Ceylon, for instance, cannot be calculated within a respectable margin of certitude, how futile must be speculations on the estimates in regard to other articles of agriculture and commerce distributed between different parts of the globe! What must be the value of trade returns in general! The recognised experts put down Cinchona crop for 1884-85 for 8½ million lbs. The real yield was 11,700,000 lbs. The calculation for the next year was still discredited by the result. The estimate for 1885-86 was 9 million lbs., the actual yield was by 100,000 lbs. less than 15½ million lbs. It may be supposed that the experts would now take exceptional care to secure accuracy. But see the result! They estimated the crop of 1886-87 at 11 million lbs. But the same year the export ran up to 14,400,000 lbs! One would think that at last in mere shame the figurative gentlemen would shut up shop. But no—they are at it still, and have announced their estimate of the present crop at 9½ million lbs. Now who so poor to do them reverence again? Who so base as to believe in their dark foreboding in the face of the striking expansion of the cultivation? There seems a determined effort to underestimate among the prophets.

Hope says :—

"We often forget that a great part of the contempt we receive from foreigners is deserved. A nation, some of whose best educated men have lost all sense of nationality, some of whose most prominent men are the merest sycophants and self-seekers, whose ablest men have not yet been able to show any evidence of the originality that conquers the world—such a nation can never gain the respect of a people with whom despite all their faults, nationality is the strongest sentiment, whose originality is their trump card, and who by their enterprise and courage have conquered half the world. This is a point on which a great deal might be said, and we shall take it up in another issue. In the meantime we must point out in support of what we say that the

Bengalis, being the worst sinners in the respects noted just now, are, of all Indian faces, the most despised by Englishmen."

We cordially concur with our contemporary, except in his concluding assertion. We must beg leave to correct the editor where he says that the Bengalis are the worst sinners in the toadying line. They are not. There are—and all the more shame to us as Indians—as great wretches of the kind in other parts of India as in Bengal. So far as we are able to judge, the Bengalis are stouter of heart and more self-respecting than the Indians of any other race or Province in the Empire. The point has more than a sentimental interest, and we would like to have the opinion of competent observers.

THE *Amrita Bazar Patrika* notices a heart-rending case of tyranny by a District Superintendent of Police exercised over a subordinate native officer, the details of which first appeared in *Hope*. We hope there is such a thing as Government in the land to do justice in the matter. Speedy interference might be the means of saving a fellow-creature, if not a brother—for the victim is a Baboo after all.

THE *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has taken to Nomenclology. There is no end to the vagaries of nomenclature. As usual, the anomalies of neighbours strike our acute brother, but the anomaly of self escapes even his keenness. Says he—

"The names which newspapers adopt for themselves must be a curious study. *Reis and Rayyet* is a paper neither for the one nor for the other, but the educated classes. The *Bengalee* is in charge of one who had gone to England and come back perfectly un-Bengalized. The *Hindu* talks of un-Hindu reforms. The *Muslim Herald* is conducted by a European. The *Maharatta* does not talk of Balaji or the battle of Maharajpore, but of technical education and import duties. The *Englishman* is such an Englishman that he hates representative councils, and the *Pioneer* is such a *Pioneer* that any slight advance on the part of India towards political reform subjects him to St. Vitus's dance."

And the *Amritabazar*? The Sphinx will be puzzled to solve the riddle of the name? There is no such place in Calcutta or near it, and the greatest of Minute Geographers could not guess its situation. Shall we say the *Patrika* is a mighty Griffin from the Land of Pratapaditya, whose mission seems to be to out-Griffin the Griffins and swallow all the Bears and Bugbears in the Empire? In fact, we are all in the same boat—misnomers all.

We wonder how our brother down South will receive the soft impeachment of being doubly a Feringi. The racial slang which forms the staple of his speech seems to betray him, but he may be Muslim all the same, call him a renegade or a convert, as you like. For his own sake, in this world as well as in the next, we hope he is.

THEY have solved the problem in the newest state in Europe. A sort of *Jezin* has been ordered against the social infidels who affect a life of single-blessedness and quote with approbation the naughty advice of *Punch* to those who are about to be wedded. All unmarried men and widowers without issue now in Servia must pay three times the tax levied on those who are married. Served right!

ON Wednesday afternoon, 8th instant, at 4-30, the Annual meeting of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund will be held at the Town Hall. The Viceroy will preside and many distinguished men are expected to address the meeting.

Meantime, the Queen's Register containing the names in MS. of all donors and collectors of cards, has just been bound in a handsome volume at Ulwar.

THE *Silchar*, the new organ of native enlightenment at the capital of Assam, is already going in for imperial politics. It clearly thinks that the people of India should have a voice in the appointment of the Viceroy, but is open to a compromise—for the present only, we suppose. Averse to constant change in the head of Government, the

editor is for prolonging the duration of each vicereignty. He concludes—

"It is fit therefore that the opinion of the people should be consulted, if not in appointing, at least in fixing the term of a Governor's office."

TALK of the vagaries of Native jurors in India? In Catholic France, in the department of Indre, a man has just been acquitted by a sympathising jury of the charge of murdering his child of six months by pouring sulphuric acid down the poor infant's throat. There was no want of evidence. Indeed, the thing was admitted. The prisoner pleaded the burden of an increasing family as his justification. The jurors evidently thought the plea good in law and conscience. Suppose some Sonthals on the panel in a rural district in India had given anything like a similar verdict, would the fact not have been an argument in certain quarters for abolishing the Jury system and Local Self-Government into the bargain?

JUMBO's consort Alice, Barnum's elephant, was dissected at Bridgeport, Connecticut. Her stomach disclosed 300 pennies, part of a pocket knife, four walking stick ferrules, and a piece of lead pipe. A strange old curiosity shop were this great lady's bowels! But does any one suspect how this show grew? Surely, elephants are not omnivorous. Even the proverbial ostrich's stomach would not take kindly to pocket-knives and lead pipes. We guess that these things were thrown to the noble captive in time of hunger to eat, and she took them up in good faith and tried to digest them as best she could, much as Sterne's immortal donkey exercised his jaws on the artichoke. We wonder whether any soul in America had the humour and humanity to offer her macaroni! The curiosity shop in poor Alice's stomach represents the practical "goak"ativeness of the sight-seeing public of the Great Republic.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1888.

[To satisfy a general curiosity, specially as we are unable to supply the old number, we reprint from our first vol. the article we wrote on the late Nawab Ikbalood Dowlah on his receiving, in 1882, the knighthood of the Order of the Star of India. Hereafter, we purpose giving other particulars.]

THE WANDERING NAWAB.

A GOOD deal of curiosity has been manifested in society about one of the recipients of the Birth-day honors. Ikbal-ood-Dowlah has been made a Knight of the Star of India. But who is Ikbal-ood-Dowlah? He must be noble beyond question—"Dowlah" settles that—but who is he? From his name, he may be either an Indian, or a Persian. Unknown to the Indian public, he is scarcely better known to the world outside. Yet, a man whom our sovereign delights to honor with one of the highest decorations at her disposal, must be worth knowing. We need, therefore, make no apology for giving an account of him.

Nor is the task unwelcome. The name recalls the lost glories of that kingdom whose despoiled Royalty pines away in inglorious seclusion at Garden Reach in the suburbs of Calcutta. It is associated with memories of Oudh as an independent State, when our rulers anxiously watched its attitude in respect of their policy, when even in the process of deliberately and systematically undermining it, they humoured it, when they stooped to beg of it for the means for carrying on the government of British India, when Lucknow was the Versailles of this Continent, where British proconsuls were wont to taste

of the pomp and circumstance of Oriental empire. The man by himself, independently of these high associations, is not insignificant or wholly obscure. If not an important, he is certainly an interesting character. He is an original. His life has been more than ordinarily remarkable. His daily routine is a romance. There surely has not been another Asiatic of the kind. Such a career must be a profitable study.

Nawab Ikbaloood Dowlah Boorhan ul Moolk Muhsun Ali Khan Bahadur Nusrut Jung. Such is the name and titles in full. Indeed, we should not wonder if some honorific distinction was left out in the process of transcription. His father was equally exalted, and, of course, long named. Son of the late Nawab Shumsood Dowlah Nujumool Moolk Ahmad Ali Khan Bahadur Sowlut Jung, Nawab Ikbaloood-Dowlah is a grandson of the famous and able Ruler of Oudh, the Nawab Vizier ul Moolk Yemenood Dowlah Nazim ul Moolk Nawab Saadat Ali Khan Bahadur Mobariz Jung—the brother and successor of Nawab Asofood Dowlah and the son of the historic ruling Vizier, Shoojaood Dowlah Bahadoor, the first important and powerful ally of the British in Upper India. As such, he was nephew of His Majesty Ghazi uddin Hyder Shah and and Mahammad Ali Shah, the father of the late king Umjad Ali Shah. Of Nusseeruddin Hyder and Umjad Ali Shah, he was, of course, first cousin. The hatred of cousins is proverbial, and in 1833 or thereabouts, he fell out with his royal relative. It was an unfortunate quarrel. These royal grandees affected to despise the territorial barons, but their own position as pensioners on royal bounty was at best precarious. Once fallen under displeasure, they had no alternative resource to fall back upon. It was to remedy this state of things, indeed, that the famous provision for all her descendants was made by the Buhoo Begum. The evidence of Mr. Knighton's wretched mendacious compilation is nothing, but Nusseeruddin Hyder was far from an angel on a throne. Being master of the situation, he, probably with the object of bringing him down to his feet, stopped his cousin's stipend. Almost any other man in the grandee's position would have acted according to the king's expectation. But Ikbaloood Dowlah was made of sterner stuff than to whine about the palaces and gardens of Lucknow, praying for the intercession of women, young and old, and making interest with male, female, epicene and hermaphrodite. After a fruitless application to the British Residency in Oudh, he came down to Calcutta, resolved to lay his grievances before the British Government. This was no mean enterprise in those days—evidence of no small force of character for a man in that position. Our very progress is in the way of our doing justice to the achievement of the past. Every character and every deed should be judged of in relation to its peculiar circumstances. All our ideas are relative. In losing sight of the circumstances of the period, we fail in a right understanding of actors and actions. Modern enlightenment and improvements disqualify us from realising the difficulties, and consequently lead us to undervalue the triumphs, of former times. When almost every failed entrance examinee talks of going to Europe to become a barrister, we wonder our grandfathers made so much of Ram Mohan Roy or Dwarka Nath Tagore's visit to England. When every dancing girl in Lucknow or Delhi, in a dull season, purposes to come down to Bengal to ply her

profession, we are unable to realize the enterprise of the men of Upper India who, forty or fifty years ago, made the Grand Tour to Calcutta. As yet, out of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, geography was not taught either in vernacular or English. Travelling was cultivated neither as a pleasure nor an accomplishment. Nay, it was understood only as a pilgrimage or a penalty. Let us remember that in those days there were not only no railways but no convenience for communication at all, that where we have the electric telegraph, mutually connecting all parts of the empire, and connecting them with all civilized parts of the globe, there was an uncertain, costly, and tedious Post for transmission of letters, that the steam passage to England was an embryo in the brain or a new experiment, that ice, then the luxury of European Merchant Princes and the highest officials, was still made in the fields about the present railway station at Hooghly, that the roads were bad and dangerous, that people from Mymensing and Comilla going to Dacca hardly expected to return home, that about fifty per cent. of the Bengal pilgrims to Benares were sure to be robbed and murdered between the Doomoordah and Colgong pirates, that—not to talk of Nimsaran or Hurdwar or Pushkar—Baidyanath was more inaccessible than the elder Jwala Mukhi, that Lucknow was the capital of a Mussulman Kingdom whose Botany Bay was Cawnpore, that Calcutta itself was for the most part impassable and a sink of dirt and stink and disease and death, where crime and violence stalked about unpunished, and we shall be better able to conceive what was involved in the peregrinations of a Prince of the Blood Royal of Oudh in quest of justice. But there is no need for so much historical imagination. There is an instance in point in the later annals of Oudh itself. Some idea may be formed at once of royal degeneracy and helplessness in that classic kingdom and of the troubles of travellers in those days, from the fact that on the Annexation, in 1856, the indignant ex-King resolved to proceed with his whole family to England to lay in person his complaint at the foot of the throne. But the difficulties he experienced in moving down country and the hardships he suffered on the voyage to Calcutta, effectually cured him of all idea of venturing out on the wide ocean. Even so late as twenty years back, the respectable citizens of the Oudh metropolis, who were wont to despise the people of other parts of India as comparatively barbarous, used to flock around their friends returned from the service of His Majesty Wajid Ali Shah at Calcutta listening to the wondrous tales of houses in the water and discussing the possibility of such edifices. In 1862, a well known musician of Lucknow, who in his youth had been to the Dekkan in the service of the celebrated Dewan Chundoo Lall, having promised to accompany us to Calcutta, at the last moment backed out, because, as he said, with almost tears in his eyes, it was a deadly journey. We have ourselves known men who remembered the sensation caused in Oudh by the boldness of Nawab Ikbaloood Dowlah and of Syad Hussan Ali.

If in those days the difficulties of enterprise were great, it was not altogether without its compensations. There was no such antagonism between Native and European as since. It was the era of patronage—Natives looked up to Europeans, and Europeans were not above looking after natives. Native enlightenment was a relief to the surrounding darkness which oppressed the Europeans. It was too rare to dazzle.

Even native grievances were welcome to a society of Europeans cut off from Europe, pining in *ennui*. So when the apparition of a handsome young offshoot of the Royal House of Oudh dropped on this metropolis, "society" embraced it with open arms and made the most of it. The stranger became the reigning "lion." But this kind of thing never lasts, and soon as the young exile proceeded to open his portfolio, he began to prove uninteresting. It is creditable to the young man that his reception did not turn his head, so that he could bear with fortitude the subsequent neglect. He could do it all the better that, as in justice it must be admitted, some of the best of Anglo-Indians sympathised with him to the last—Sir Charles Metcalfe, Mr. Trevelyan (now Sir Charles) and Mr. Batten. For a man brought up in the stifling atmosphere of a haughty and superstitious court in those times, he showed a wonderful desire and aptitude for improvement. He early saw the need of knowledge of English for a better intercourse with Europeans, and, believing it must be useful to the conduct of his suit, he commenced to learn the language. He not only moved in society but enquired a good deal into the country and the Government. He must have been struck by the contrast between his native Oudh and British Bengal. He published his observations in Persian and English in a treatise entitled *Iktal e Fereng* with a portrait of the author. The book is now extremely rare. It is a literary curiosity, but not worse than many works of scribbling plutocrats now or then. A suitor's *éloge* on the State to which he prays for mercy rather than justice, is, under the best of circumstances, not likely to be worth much. But the attempt is characteristic. As a measure for raising political capital, it was vain. The hate of his kinsman and King pursued him to Calcutta. Notwithstanding the interest created by him there, his petition to the Government of India met with scant success. Every effort was made by the court of Lucknow, through the Resident and its agents, to bully him to submission to the royal mercy. But Ikblood Dowlah would not kiss the hem he had spurned. Nor did he despair, though in those days the Government of India was supreme and its decision practically final. He conceived the bold idea of repairing to London to try, if he could, to persuade the Home Government.

So he went to Europe. There he had a repetition of the first lionising and subsequent neglect. He swerved not from his purpose, but went to work steadily and quietly and remained at it. It was an arduous, nay, hopeless mission. But his perseverance at last triumphed. It cost him so much trouble and took him so many years, that, by the time he attained his end and might return to his country, he had lost his country as it were. Oudh had ceased to be a nation, and the court of Lucknow were dispersed as exiles. A young Irishman from the army might now send to prison the proudest noble at the complaint of the meanest mehter, or, for that matter, without complaint whatever, in the very capital which Ikblood Dowlah and his compeers once walked as very gods. Meanwhile, he had become acclimatized, civilly and physically naturalized, in the land of his long sojourn. And there he elected to remain. He has led a roving sort of life. The continual necessity he had been under of shifting his residence from place to place, since he left Lucknow, at last gave him a wandering disposition. He has travelled through Europe more times than most Eu-

ropean grandees have done. He has left no country untouched. As he has no business, he takes his own time and convenience about his movements. His is indeed the "business of pleasure." Numerous as have been the Indian travellers and sojourners in Europe, none have approached him in this line. Babu Dwarkanath Tagore and Prince Gholam Mahammad and the Nawab of Surat and Moonshee Buzloor Rahim and Raja Rampal Singh went to Europe twice each, the Moorshedabad Princes thrice some of them, but to little purpose. Ikblood Dowlah alone knows life in all its variety throughout the West. He has friends in every capital and great city on that side the Persian Gulf. Throughout all the temptations of such a career, he has preserved his character in a way to make him worthy the friendship of the greatest and best and most righteous in every land. What we hold to be of more significance is that he has preserved his faith. Though a lover of mankind, in harmony with the followers of every creed, he is a Mussulman of Mussulmans. A citizen of the world, he is yet a kind of artificial Persian in sympathy, as he is a Shiah by religion; and for the last forty years and more, he has made his home at Bagdad near the shrines of the Martyrs. He occasionally goes round Europe, visiting his old friends.

We ought to add that he has always been of great help to not simply Indians but all Orientals visiting Europe on business or pleasure. His intelligence and vast experience and numerous connections are of priceless importance in advising and assisting foreigners in difficulty.

Why does not the Nawab end, as he began, as an author? His memoirs must be very interesting. A Mussulman Henry Crabbe Robinson who has travelled more than the Englishman talked, would certainly be an acquisition to literature.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY BILL.

LICENSING OF CARTS.

WE must look to the Hon'ble Sir Henry Harrison in charge of the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Bill, to terminate the very unsatisfactory state of things that has so long prevailed in regard to the licensing of carts in some of the suburban towns. So far as the Suburbs proper and Howrah are concerned, the arrangement works well and without a hitch, and this because carts kept or used within the limits of Calcutta or Howrah, are registered and licensed in one place, namely, the Calcutta Municipal Office, and it is provided that "the total net proceeds of the fees half-yearly received by the Commissioners [of Calcutta] for the registration of carts shall be divided between the Municipalities of Calcutta and Howrah and such other Municipalities adjacent to Calcutta or Howrah as the Lieutenant-Governor shall think entitled to a share in such receipts, in such proportion as the Lieutenant-Governor may, from time to time, determine." In virtue of the latter clause, the Suburban Municipality and, we believe, the South-Dum-Dum Municipality also, are admitted into this common arrangement. The Municipalities of Baranagar, lately called North-Suburban, and of the South-Suburbs, do not participate in this scheme, and the result is a double and sometimes triple system of registration, and great inconvenience to trade. In consequence of the exclusion, for instance, of the Baranagar Municipality from the above arrangement, it has its own registration of carts. It registers carts kept within its

limits as well as seizes Calcutta carts found plying within them. The Calcutta carts thus avoid these neighbouring towns, and the consequence is, when any one is in need of a cart to carry goods from Calcutta to Baranagar, he can hardly get hold of one. Messrs. George Henderson and Company, Agents of the Baranagar Jute Mills, often complained of this, and, failing to obtain a remedy, they have had cargo-boats and steamers of their own built at great cost for the carriage of their goods. The Calcutta carts are easily hired for traffic up to the Cossipore Jute Presses, but the Baranagar Mills are practically boycotted. To private individuals, the inconvenience is of daily occurrence. Unless one luckily comes across a Suburban Municipal cart, he has no chance of getting his goods conveyed, except by boat or men. The Suburban carts are available, because of an arrangement which is another hardship on them. They are doubly registered, once by the Calcutta Municipality and again by the Suburban Municipality, for plying outside the Suburbs into Baranagar, for which it receives a moiety of the proceeds, the other moiety being paid to the Baranagar Municipality. This is an arrangement between these two Municipalities which would cease, if Sir Henry Harrison took advantage of the opportunity offered by the amendment of the law to introduce one equitable comprehensive system for all these neighbouring towns.

But this is not all. Far worse oppression ensues from the operation of a certain provision of the Calcutta Municipal Act, which we find retained in the Amended Bill, and which is as follows:—Section 88 of the Amended Bill is a reproduction of the provision in question and exempts from registration by the Calcutta Municipal Commissioners, three classes of carts, one of which is enumerated thus: "which are kept at any place more than eight miles distant from Government House and are only temporarily and casually used within the Municipality of Calcutta or Howrah." The enforcement of this so-called exemption clause is a fruitful source of tyranny. There are carts kept within the North-Suburban (Baranagar) and South-Suburban (Behala) Municipalities which find sufficient employment to meet the local trade only. They never stray outside the limits of their own Municipalities to which they pay half-yearly registration fees for obtaining their local licenses. These, however, are often seized, and hauled up before the Calcutta Police Magistracy and fined, and forced to take out licenses from the Calcutta Municipality. The Calcutta police constables are often found visiting the places where these carts are kept, and marching them away to the police court. There would be some excuse if these carts were seized when detected plying within prohibited limits, although the law does not authorize such seizure in case of temporary or casual use. But what are we say when they are seized in their own quarters where they have a perfect right to be kept and used, and for which keeping and use they have to make two half-yearly payments to the local Municipalities! The class of cartmen are too poor and helpless to protect themselves, and the complicated procedure prevailing on the subject apparently makes their own municipal authorities equally helpless too, or they should have long before set the matter to right. We call on the Hon'ble Dr. Sircar to move in the matter.

The above clause should be omitted, or its operation should be stopped by executive order. Sir Henry Harrison is quite competent to remove this

grievance, in his capacity of Chairman. As to the removal of double registration, the provision in the Municipal Act requires no material alteration, only the practice should be amended and the adjacent municipalities added by name to those of the Suburbs and Howrah and made to participate in one great common system of registration. The absence of such a system works great mischief and inconvenience which should not continue,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

ELAHIGUNGE PHENOMENON.

DEAR SIR,—Having lately arrived here, from my native village to practise law in the Sub-Divisional Moonsiff's Court at Lalbagh, I was informed by several old gentlemen of the station of a curious phenomenon, observed by them, some years back, at a place on the other side of the river Bhagrati. As the same seemed to me worthy of publication, I could not refrain from sending it to your much esteemed journal. They say, that there is a snug garden of the Manjari plants (a plant of the Jessamine class) situated close to the public road, at Elahigunge, having a spacious tank within it, upon which the last moon (harana-chandra) an insignificant inauspicious dark constellation (not observed by Hindoos, two days, in the year, once in Bhadra and again in Kartick) according to the Hindu astrologers of the solar system, had suddenly shed its silver rays one night and produced so violent a tide, that the whole contents of the tank overflowing the banks, watered the roots of the plants, long barren, and made the latter fruitful. Strange to say, the tide lasted for some months only, after which it subsided. The plant, with its exuberance of flowers, bowed down, as if asking for help; on which a prop being promptly supplied it then grew to be larger. Last year, it was observed in a different position, causing great annoyance to the proprietor. An efficient remedy was, however, discovered, by some of the sages and great Pandits of the city, in conjunction with one residing in that village, which restored manjari-plant to its former position. But the cure, thus effected, was of a temporary nature and the plant has again been just the same as before. I am eagerly waiting for the result of this evil omen.

M. K. S. H.

Moorshedabad, 30th January.

THE SANTIPORE ELECTIONS.

SIR,—In your issue of the 14th January last, a correspondent who signs himself 'An Onlooker,' has made certain statements regarding some of the representative men elected for the municipal board of Santipore. If these statements have been made *bona fide* for the public good, I can but ask him to give out the names. One can only wonder at the random shafts he has sent flying in all directions instead of taking aim at the target. For fairness' sake, he should have mentioned by name every one of those whom he wanted to vilify.

As his language appears to be highly defamatory, and his conduct liable to criminal prosecution, I challenge him to give out his own name. So long as one keeps in the cloud and conceals his identity, he is but acting the sneak. Such dastardly conduct is highly reprehensible, and I make bold to denounce your candidate (correspondent?) as a mere tool of a particular disappointed candidate.

No doubt your correspondent thinks that it is a thousand pities that the rayyets did not recognise his idol Sarat—(that 'inglorious commoner') as their friend, but we know too well the lines

Whenever I hear a knave commend,

He bids me shun his worthy friend;

and do not wonder at the rayyets' backwardness to vote on his side.

Lastly I must admit, I can not find anything preeminently attractive in Babu Mathur Mohun Mookerjee—as a member of the Municipal Board of Santipore—to make him deserve that much-coveted title, 'the uncrowned king,' as 'An Onlooker' chooses to invest him with, unless the expression comes to be applied as an abuse according to what the Grammarians call "Degradation of words through course of time."

PIANOFORTE.

Santipore, 1st February, 1888.

Holloway's Pills.—Important for the delicate.—It is difficult to determine which is the more trying to the human constitution, the damp, cold days of autumn and winter, or the keen, dry, easterly winds of spring. Throughout the seasons good health may be maintained by occasional doses of Holloway's Pills, which purify the blood and act as wholesome stimulants to the skin, stomach, liver, bowels, and kidneys. This celebrated medicine needs but a fair trial to convince the ailing and desponding that it will restore and cheer them without danger, pain, or inconvenience. No family should be without a supply of Holloway's Pills and Ointment, as by a timely recourse to them the first erring function may be reclaimed, suffering may be spared, and life saved.

THE KHYBER MALIKS.

On the 13th January, the Malikhs of the Khyber were entertained at a grand Indian *Zaafut* by Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadoor, C.I.E. The leading members of the Mahomedan community, including Princes of the Oudh and Mysore families, landlords, merchants, learned men and professional men, were invited to meet them. The Malikhs were accompanied by Kazi Syud Ahmed Khan Bahadoor, C.I.E., *Attaché* of the Foreign Office. Fifty gentlemen sat to the sumptuous banquet. At its conclusion, Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadoor rose and addressed the Malikhs in Urdu, his speech being interpreted sentence by sentence in Pushto by Kazi Syed Ahmed.

He said that---

their visit to Calcutta had given much pleasure to the Mahomedan community at Calcutta, and their presence at the entertainment was a source of much gratification to the gentlemen who had come to meet them. The pleasure which all present had derived from the company of his distinguished guests, was chiefly due to the advantages afforded by railway communication; for had it not been for the speedy and comfortable means of travelling thus provided, it would have been very inconvenient for them to have undertaken such a long journey,--perhaps, he would be more correct if he said practically impossible. For such means and appliances of comfortable travelling, all felt an additional cause of gratitude to the British Government for linking together the different Provinces of India, indeed, for uniting India with neighbouring countries. Formerly, not only was there an absence of such means of communication, but people could scarcely believe in the possibility of such wonders as the Malikhs themselves had now seen. The extraordinary speed, ease, and convenience, with which they had travelled all the way from the farthest end of India down to Calcutta, must have struck them. But with all their great and varied knowledge of arts and sciences, the British would not have been able to construct these iron roads, if the state of the country had not proved favorable to such peaceful and civilizing undertakings. History tells us that India in days gone by did not enjoy uninterrupted peace, and that the lives and properties of her subjects were in constant jeopardy, because her rulers were always at feud with each other, endangering the peace of the country. To construct railway communications and to engage in other peaceful pursuits, would have been simply impossible. Thus it was, as he need hardly add, on account of the justice and the impartiality of English officials, that the land was enjoying its present state of prosperity and contentment. Our just and benign Government, moreover, have provided every means for the facility, comfort, and benefit of their subjects of every religion, and all classes of their subjects, by reason of their rights being protected and com-

forts brought within their easy reach, were pleased and contented. If there had been no fellow-feeling among the different nationalities of India, the present peace would not have been maintained, nor could we be living amidst people of different religious persuasions and nationalities in peace and unity. Without such peace and harmony, it would have been impossible for his distinguished visitors present to come to this country so far with so much ease and comfort, and without anxiety, and the Mahomedans of the town, now assembled, would not have had this opportunity of being so extremely delighted.

The Nawab continued that there were 5 crores or 50 millions of Mahomedans in India, whilst, in the whole world, the Mahomedan population was 180 millions. According to this calculation, about one-third of this population inhabit India. There are not so many Mahomedans either in Turkey, Persia, Turkistan, Afghanistan, Arabia, China, or Africa. The Mahomedans in India perform their religious rites and the sacred duties and observances of their faith with comfort, ease, and complete freedom, without the slightest let or hindrance; and for this, if for no other reason, they are heartily thankful to Her Imperial Majesty, the Queen of England and Empress of India, who is the sovereign of the largest number of Mahomedans in the whole world. The Nawab repeated that the visit of the Malikhs to Calcutta had, indeed, afforded the Mussulmans of the capital the highest pleasure, and he was sure that they, too, being the followers of the same faith, must be pleased to see the freedom of worship and religious institutions enjoyed by their co-religionists here in peace and comfort in everyday life. The Nawab concluded by thanking his guest for having (as he modestly expressed himself) submitted to the inconvenience of his humble banquet. He next thanked the distinguished nobles and gentlemen of the Mahomedan community of the town, who had so kindly assisted him by their presence in giving a warm welcome to his honored guests. He finally expressed his hearty thanks to his esteemed friend, Kazi Syed Ahmed Khan Bahadur, for so kindly contributing to the success of the evening's entertainment.

The Nawab ended his address by praying to the Almighty, that through His blessing the Malikhs might have a safe and pleasant journey back to their hearths and homes, and that they might find their relatives and friends in a state of perfect health and happiness.

The Malikhs, in reply, expressed their best thanks for the hospitality shown to them by the Nawab, and the honor done to them by the leaders of Mahomedan society.

The Kazi Sahib interpreted the speech of the Malikhs briefly as follows:--"Nawab Sahib, we are highly thankful to you, and to the Princes and other gentlemen whom we have met here to-night for the kindness and attention which you have shown to us in this city. And if you ever visit our native land, we shall try to do our utmost to attend to your comforts there, and on our return home we shall relate to our people the kindness, fellow-feeling, hospitality, and generosity shown, and honor done to us, by our Mahomedan brethren in this metropolis."

NOTICE, MILITARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

With reference to this Office Notice of the 23rd January 1888, it is hereby notified that all those attending "The Investiture of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire" to be held on Saturday the 4th February at 12 O'clock noon in the Government House Grounds are requested to enter,

If entitled to the Private Entrance by the South West Gate, and alight opposite the Private Entrance in front of the Gun. Their carriages will then be passed out by the South Gate.

Those not having the privilege of the Private Entrance will enter by the North East Gate, and will set down before reaching the Grand Stair Case.

Full dress is to be worn by those entitled to wear uniform, those not entitled to wear uniform to appear in Evening dress.

The gates of Government House will be closed at 11-45, after which no carriage will be allowed into the Government House Compound till the ceremony is over.

By Command,
W. BERESFORD, Lieut.-Colonel,
Military Secretary to the Viceroy.
Government House.
Calcutta, 1st February 1888.

EMERALD THEATRE

BEADON STREET.

Saturday--the 4th February, 1888--

at 5½ p. m. sharp.

OPERA! OPERA! OPERA!

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SUVADRA ... Mrs. Sukumary Dutt.

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Dancing and singing in abundance!

To be followed by that side-splitting Farce,

TRIBUTE TO FOLLY.

Next day,--Sunday,--5th February,
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Baboo Grish Chunder Ghose's

Most popular piece

THE EXILE OF SIT-A.

War between Father and Sons!

To be followed by that original genuine Farce

Jambon-kurmo Tamon-fal

OR

PROPER RETURN.

G. C. GHOSE Manager.

The Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

THE Third Annual Meeting of the National Association for supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India will be held, by permission of the Municipality, in the Town Hall, Calcutta, at 4-30 o'clock, on Wednesday afternoon, the 8th February.

H. COOPER, A. D. C.,

Honorary Secretary,

Calcutta, 22nd January, 1888.

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CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

To Coal Contractors and others.

TENDERS are invited and will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to noon of Wednesday the 8th instant and will then be opened by him in the presence of such tenderers as may choose to be present, for the supply of Steam Coal for one year from the 1st April next.

Specification and conditions of contract with tender forms can be obtained on application in the Water Works Department of the Engineer's office, where also any necessary information can be obtained.

Rs. 1000 to be deposited as earnest money by each party tendering. Tenders to be submitted under sealed cover superscribed "Tender for Coal." The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

NOTICE.

THE Registration of births and deaths under Act IV (B. C.) of 1876 Chapter X having been transferred from the Inspectors of Police to the Ward Inspectors from the 1st February, and the Ward Inspectors having been appointed Registrars of births and deaths under Section 169 of that Act, all persons concerned are informed that from and after the 1st of February 1888 applications for the registration of births and deaths should be made at the Offices of the Ward Inspectors of the Health Officer's Department instead of at the Police Thannahs as heretofore.

Office—Ward No. 1—92 Grey-street.
" " 2—67 Nimtola Ghat-street.
" " 3—92 Grey-street.
" " 4—82 Upper Circular Road.
" " 5—67 Nimtola Ghat-street.
" " 6—117 Machooa Bazar-road.
" " 7—164 Lower Chitpore-road.
" " 8 and 9—2-1 College-street.
" " 10 and 11—40 Wellington-street.
" " 12—7 Mangoe Lane.
" " 13 and 14—21 Wellesley-street.
" " 15, 16 and 17—26 and 27 Circular-road.
" " No. 18—May Road, Hastings.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.
30th January 1888.

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Dr. Brandis says—"The oil is used medicinally as an antiseptic and anthelmintic." Dr. Maxwell has found it "as efficacious as Cod Liver Oil in cases of consumption and scrofula." Sir W. O'Shaughnessy says—"The oil is thought anthelmintic and is applied externally to foul ulcers and used as a liniment in rheumatic and spasmodic affections and in headaches from exposure in the sun." Dr. Dymock says—"The oil is applied to suppurating glands, is given in leprosy and in a variety of diseases." If applied to sores in horses and other domestic animals, it keeps off flies and thereby promotes healing. The oil is a sovereign remedy for BARSATEE SORES, mange and itches and all foul sores in horses and cattle. Nighanta Ratnakar, a Sanskrit Medical Encyclopædia, thus speaks of the medicinal virtues of the Nim Oil—"It is bitter, destroyer of worms, cures leprosy abscesses and ulcers and diseases of impure blood, chronic fever and piles."

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Full price list to be had on application.

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N. B.—See *Reis & Rayyet* of 26th February March 1887, for full advertisement.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

Dr. S. C. Mookerjee, the editor of what is undoubtedly one of the ablest papers in the country in point of literary power is the author of a pleasant little book of Travels in East Bengal.....The author is master of a racy style of English which many an Englishman may envy. Humorous descriptions and caustic satire enliven every page. There is throughout a vigour and freshness of style that lends a charm to the veriest commonplace. If there were, however, a higher purpose in the publication of this book than to lighten the weary evening hours of the ordinary reader, we confess to a feeling that the author has failed in such an object. We are afraid there is not poetry enough in us to body forth in imagination the beauty of the scenes which the author has described in his voyages to and fro between Dacca and Tipperah. Humourist as he is Dr. Mookerjee will remind us of the words of the poet that the point of a "jest lies more in the ear of him that hears it than in the tongue

of him that utters it." As with the jest so is it with the description. We do not say that the charge is unfounded. Prosaic as we are, drudging away at the desk, perhaps it is that we lack capacity to follow in imagination what the author has doubtless delineated with an admirable pen.

One of the chief impressions that a reader will receive from a glance at the book is the somewhat strained relation between the Babus and the Anglo-Indians. The author pours a flood of ridicule upon the lordly airs of our "rulers." He hits hard indeed in his account of the Colonel at whilst enduring a Babu looking on, when on board the steamer, and of the whiteman's condescension in bowing to the black nigger. Happily we in the South are not so badly off in our commerce with the representatives of Western civilization. In spite of several instances of conflict and misunderstanding Englishmen and Hindus pull on agreeably together. But the author, notwithstanding his involuntary feeling of aloofness from the European, is no stranger to the blessings for which the West has laid us in debt. He has a keen appreciation of the enjoyments of this Westernized life of ours. He looks for ever forward and casts no longing lingering look behind at the things with which we have shaken hands and parted. His heart is in the continuance of British supremacy in the East. And agitation is his utmost weapon for the maintenance of his rights. But he will have nothing with spurious agitation. We extract below a paragraph of excellent advice to his brethren of the press. [Extract.]

The author recounts his adventure with the Railway officials of Sealdah with considerable humour. We feel an irresistible temptation to quote it *in extenso*, but space forbids. How the greenback was no legal tender, why silver of the Calcutta mint was wanted and how the currency question stood stiff and frowning despite the Editors and Magistrates who had accompanied the author to bid him good-bye at the station, and how again with the advent of the Justice of the Peace all objection to receiving the currency-note vanished, are all narrated in a style that is fittingly characterized only by the word "delightful." In another place the author introduces the reader to the Hindu belief in the auspicious hour for starting on a journey in language of such playful railery that we make no apology for quoting it. [Extract.]

The untoward circumstance of the day, the event to which we have already alluded namely the refusal of the Railway officials to receive the currency-note in payment of the fare, elicits the following humorous confession of human weakness. [Extract.]

The author has some trenchant criticism on the insolation of the Englishman, which makes him inaccessible to the complaints of extortion or plunder by their menials. They are too absorbed to know all that passes about them and the wrongs that are committed in their names are unnoticed as mere trifles for they have rarely any idea of their magnitude. It is only too well known throughout the country how blackmail in the shape of money or provisions is levied upon the inhabitants when the Collector is on tour. It would be difficult to believe the thing could go on under his very nose without his connivance if we did not know his exclusiveness and his distaste for mixing with the people.

The author devotes the greater part of the book to a description of the people and the external aspect of the country that he passed through in his two trips to Tipperah from Calcutta and back. He has a good deal to say about the customs of some of the people he becomes acquainted with. He makes a discovery of the debris of a Portuguese colony in Tipperah that has become debased in morality, and sunk in superstition. Although there is not much in the book that is instructive to the serious student, the grace of diction and the ease of style carry the reader pleasantly through. It would be difficult to rescue such a subject as he has chosen from dullness without his extraordinary command of language. We cannot promise more than a brief span of life to the book. It will prove what is abundantly clear to the readers of the *Reis and Rayyet* that the author is an adept in English composition. He is a lover of nature and he paints scenes and situations with an artist's pencil.—*The Hindu*, November 7, 1887.

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.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible..... The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several

other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; *the Career of an Indian Princess, Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "*Travels in Bengal*" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "*Travels*" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read:—[Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described:—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not be-

cause the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"A naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

With our author, details about petty incidents in his journeyings to and from his zemindari management are only second in importance to details as to the difficulty of getting his valuable services dispensed with when he wanted leave from his employer. He never forgets that he is a firstclass classical Baboo, and a Brahman of high degree, except when he considers that it is incumbent on his character for 19th century enlightenment to sneer at Hinduism, and exalt his personal pretensions at the expense of the old religion. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's book is valuable in a way, as showing the inordinateness of vanity, and what the Yankees call 'high falutin,' at which Baboodom can arrive, when not under the supervision of superior authority, e.g., our author's budgerow and cook-boat are always referred to as a "fleet." In his preface he refers complacently to "the mere English reader." At page 31 he ostentatiously laments that he cannot run away from Court, because he would do so "at the risk of causing something of an interregnum, so to say." In a similar key the record of vaingloriousness is carried on all through the book.

"It was with the odour of New Year's Day festivities still on me," says the Baboo, "that I proceeded to my work in the far East. Somehow, this odour does not seem to have recommended itself to his fellow-travellers. On board the steamer going to Dacca, for instance, the Baboo met a British Colonel with a pretty wife." Reference to this episode is made on the 6th page of the book. On the 9th page we are introduced to "a couple of fine healthy girls, with well proportioned, nimble limbs * * * * * sitting at the edge of the water, elaborately scrubbing and towelling their persons, and helping to clean one another." And so on. About 9 o'clock that same morning the Baboo "cleaned the cooking utensils and plates in the sands of the beach," and at night the boatmen on board the budgerow sang without asking the Baboo's permission, although, says he naively, "I am known to be somebody."

Here is a quotation *ex uno disce omnes*. It refers to the Rajah's dilatoriness in giving our author his *congé*.

"Thus from day to day, finally from morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve, and again the following morning, from an anliable inability to make up the mind—a generous indisposition to part! Far from unpleasant is this dilly dally, where there is no urgency, no peremptory call to promptitude. British employes know not this 'unbought grace of life.' They will probably not appreciate it. They have not the happiness of serving men, but are mere parts of a machine. *He serve flesh and blood*. The position of officials in Native States has its disadvantages; many enough to be sure; but it is not without ample compensations, and this is one of them."

Is it possible for the men of the East and the men of the West to be sympathetic in idea? Be that as it may, unless the author of Justice Onocool Chunder Mookerjee's *Memoirs* adventures again into literature, we do not think that a sillier book than Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels* is likely to appear for a long while.—*The Calcutta Review*.

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1888.

} No. 310

SEBASTIAN.

A TALE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA.

[Concluded from P. 50.]

CANTO II.

16

The Chief arrives, his sword in hand
And followed by his chosen band,
Whose wrath is fierce against the men
Who'd beard the lion in his den.
Though unprepared, with foeman near
Nor chief, nor follower own a fear.
Well tutored long in war's fierce game,
With passions kindled into flame,
With Tartar blood within their veins
From sires who forged a nation's chains,
They suited well old Yusuff's life,
Whose glory was a scene of strife,
And eager were they all to wield
Once more their sabres in the field.

17

The walls are scaled, the foe have gained
The outworks and have half obtained
The fort, the guns are seized and manned,
So well the fierce surprise is planned.
All vainly do the Moors oppose
The progress of their daring foes,
Few turbaned heads escape the sword
And Moslem blood in streams is poured;
Revenge and hatred nerve each arm
And propagate the wild alarm,
But fiercer battles meet the foe,
'Tis Yusuff and his band, who show
The Lusian buccaneers, how dear
They barter life, how little fear
The boldest foe, the keenest steel,
How little heed the wounds they feel.
But vain the effort, idly vain,
No vantage can their courage gain
O'er that untamed undaunted crew,
Whose weapons still their best blood drew.
Now yielding to the fierce attack
The Moslem band is driven back.
They falter, now in haste retire
And scarce escape the Lusian fire.
Dismayed they reach the citadel,
Its strengthened walls may serve them well,
There 'gainst the foe they yet may stand
And haply crush the daring band.

18

The place is won, and save the few,
The dauntless few with Yusuff still,
There's none that will the fight renew
Or dare defy the conquerors' will.

But Yusuff would'nt tamely yield
Though shivered scimitar and shield.
The Chief had fought in times gone by
When youthful ardour fired his eye,
Beneath Akbar—the good and great;
And thinking on those famous times
When glory brightened Eastern crimes,
His heart grows proud, his soul elate,
He will not shame his noble sires,
Though age has dimmed his youthful fires,
He will not shun the fight and live,
To lose what life can never give.
Beware Sebastian lest the morn
Show arms subdued and banners torn.

19

Beleagured is the citidel,
And fierce attacks the foe have made;
But Yusuff and his band repel
Each hot attempt at escalade.
The morn has dawned—upris'n the sun—
And yet the fortress is unwon,
But now they bring the cannon's aid
Will wall and tower in dust be laid,
Yet Yusuff and his band have vowed
To conquer or to die.
Wide fly the gates, out pour the crowd,
And half the Lusians fly,
Allah ho Akbar is the cry;
But fainter and more faint it grows
As perish they whose voices rose;
The Chief has fallen by the hand
Of him who leads the Lusian band.
And one by one each turbaned head
Is bleeding stretched among the dead.
The fort is won, the struggle o'er,
And hostile weapons clash no more.

20

Now where is dark eyed Gulnâr?
She who like some soft burning star,
Beaming benignly in the sky,
When not another star is nigh,
But clouds and mist and darkness round
Nothing lovelier near it found,
Moved on amongst her dark-souled race
The giver good of light and grace,
The one sweet spirit of the place.
Now where is she? she who of late
So sweetly soothed Sebastian's fate,
And won the soldier's true heart
Till it became a pain to part,
Though vengeance pointed out his way,
And Freedom lit it with her ray.
Now where is she? she who though smitten
With love more deep than ever was written

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That it became a part of life
 Together growing and decaying
 Dissevered not by storm or strife,
 And all too pure for base betraying.
 Though smitten thus, could yet forego
 Such pleasant dreams and thoughts as flow
 From love thus deep, because she felt
 Her faith, her race, her name,
 Would take the taint of shame
 If linked along with him she knelt
 At other than the Moslem shrine,
 And deemed her prophet not divine.
 Where, where is she? Sebastian rushes
 Through vacant rooms, deserted halls,
 And still on Gulnâr he calls ;
 But that sweet voice of hers is mute
 As silent as her shattered lute.
 Ha ! who lies stretched all lifeless there ?
 'Tis she ! and from her bosom fair
 Oh God ! oh God ! the life blood gushes.

21

Like one who feels one moment more
 Of life not worth preserving,
 All hopes, all joys for ever o'er
 Life's pleasures undeserving,
 Sebastian gazed, and gazed again
 And felt unutterable pain,
 For never had he so adored
 Now leaning on his crimsoned sword
 With tearless eye, but heaving breast,
 His soul its anguish thus exprest,
 His eye still wildly fixed upon
 That form of grace whose talisman was gone.

22

"And is it thus each hope is crushed !
 Thus life's divinest music hushed !
 Gay youth of each fond tie bereft,
 And nought but death and darkness left,
 The long, long night which brings no day
 To chase the changeless gloom away.
 Sad fate ! but by that heavenly smile
 So winning and so free from guile,
 Still lingering round thy yet red lip,
 Where never more the bee may sip,
 I deem—nor idly do I deem
 Thy soul hath winged its blessed flight
 To that fair region where thy dream
 Of love shall be for ever bright,
 While at the fount of Sulsabeel
 Thy soul quaffs joy mine may not feel.
 Then blest art thou, fond maid :—but I
 Must live and move and feel like one
 Who, with a mind by love undone,
 Turns fondly to the gold bright sky,
 And worships some especial star,
 And in that madness wears out life.
 Thus must I live, lost Gulnâr,
 In spite of human cares and strife.
 Beloved girl !—I dared to think
 Fate might have riveted the link
 So strongly wrought—I fondly nurst,
 And thou awak'st the passion first—
 That feeling of a love divine
 My coarser spirit caught from thine.
 I hoped—that hope was vain indeed,
 And vanished—makes this bosom bleed
 I hoped that if I came in power,
 In war's array—I might that hour
 Have called thee mine.

Tis over now :

The hue grows paler on thy brow,
 And these vain words of mine reach not
 I fear that far and sacred spot

Where thy sweet spirit moves in light,
 Where dwells no ill, where comes no blight.
 Enough—a dark and wild career
 I have begun—nor dare appear
 Of broken heart, of spirit sunk,
 Although each desperate hope be drunk
 With recklessness. Why, what to me
 Can Life or Death or ought now be ?
 The charm is gone which made it worth
 My while to love this now dull Earth."

23

Henceforth, the wild Sebastian sought
 Oblivion to each bitter thought
 In battle field—rude was his fame ;
 But long the terror of his name
 Was felt and owned afar and near,
 Till neighbouring princes learnt to fear
 The arms of those fierce Portuguese
 Whose vessels swept the Indian seas.
 Men spoke of deeds too dark for song,
 Of tyranny endured too long ;
 But now it boots not to relate
 That bold man's crime—his life and fate.
 They say, though that at certain times
 'Twas doomed remorse for bygone crimes,
 He seemed for days as one possessed,
 Nor shared he food, nor took he rest,
 But ever from his lips there came
 In accents wild an unknown name,
 And ever as uprose the evening star
 The one loved name he breathed was—

GULNÂR.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

A MUSICAL prodigy has arisen in France in a violinist named Henr Marteau, aged fourteen. He has been lately playing at Vienna where he has extorted the admiration of Herr Speidel of that capital.

OUR friends down South may now have some rest. They were furious at the Madras University having proposed white as the color for the academic costume. The Senate have now given in and declared for black—as the visible sign of Southern enlightenment.

DR. CONSTANTINE JAMES, a former collaborator of Magendie and Claude Bernard, has just published a work entitled *L'Hypnotisme Expliqué dans sa Nature et dans ses Actes*, in which he gives, from his observation of nervous patients, many curious facts to illustrate his theory of the influence exercised over them by those able to dominate their wills. The book is swelled at the end by a narrative of "Conversations with the Emperor Don Pedro on Darwinism."

ON January 23rd, Lieutenant-Colonel Yate, telegraphs from Khamiab, that he and Major Peacock have been permitted to return by the Russian railway. He expected to break up his mission by 28th January, and to proceed with a Russian party by boat to Changhai. His escort will march back under Subadar Mahomed Hussein to Quetta, which it should reach by about April 15th.

THE following telegram dated the 7th instant has been received from the Resident in Kashmir who is at Sialkot—"Cholera has broken out at Jammu, it commenced among troops ; and, during my stay up to the 4th February, there had been 40 seizures and 7 deaths in three days. Reports received yesterday and to-day shew on 5th February 17 cases and 11 deaths in the Army and 3 deaths in the city, and on the 6th February 48 cases and 10 deaths in the Army and three cases in the city. The Darbar has moved two battalions into camp at Baribanna."—Press Commissioner.

CHOWDHRI MAHDEO PERSHAD, Zemindar, Nanpore, in the district of Mozufferpore, has offered to bear the entire cost, estimated at

Rs. 27,000, of a new bridge over the Lakhundai river at Sitamarhee, and has paid Rs. 10,000 already.

THE King of Sweden who is one of the most prolific of royal authors, and a poet into the bargain, has in the press and nearly ready for publication a magnificent edition of his poetry including several pieces written within the last ten years. The book ends with a farewell in which the Bard confesses his trust in God and in His Providence in human affairs.

SOME balloons for the Italian Army in Africa have been tried with success in Paris, in a high wind without a hitch, each balloon being worked by six men. For signalling purposes during the night, each aerostat—as the whole machine is called—carries a lamp equal to seventy candles in power. The balloon and its appurtenances are coiled up in a box and placed on a four-wheeled vehicle, a pulley which lets out the cable and acts as an anchor to the aerostat, being placed at the back of the carriage. The cables are interlaced with wires for telephonic and telegraphic communication with the aeronaut. To make it independent of local water supply, gas is packed in steel tubes—forty of which will float a balloon.

FROM a letter in the *Eastern Herald*, it appears that the Mahomedans of Mhow are divided into two parties, one headed by Kazi Hafiz Mahomed Akrum and the other lead by Moonshee Imdad Ali and Moonshee Abdulla, and that they are frequently in hot water and manage to keep native society in a ferment. Some of the latter representing that a dispute was likely to take place in connection with a mosque, the Cantonment Magistrate, on the report of the Police, has closed the mosque in Tinguli, Mhow. The correspondent complains of the step and says that on a previous occasion a similar representation was made but no notice was taken of it. According to him, the Moonshees are jealous of Kazi Akrum and are bent upon ousting him from the Kaziship and the application about the mosque seems to be part of the plot. They have applied for the introduction of the Kazi Act, which is said to be distasteful to the Mahomedans of Mhow.

THE Calcutta Correspondent of the *Moulmain Advertiser*, writing on the 18th January, says—"Today is the Pen-and-ink holiday, the Suruswatee Pooja of the Hindus." Such is the influence of a great example! Our contemporary's correspondent, of course, got the description of the Suruswatee Pooja from the late Kristo Das Pal. It was one of the weaknesses of that lamented publicist every year to speak of the Pen and Ink Festival, and although we corrected him at last, we see the mistake survives. Suruswatee Pooja is the worship of the goddess of Science and Art. Pens and inkstands and books and instruments are used as symbols, but no ink. The ink-pots are carefully cleaned of every drop or spot of the black fluid or any kind of ink. The goddess herself is spotless white. All writing and reading is forbidden on that day. If writing be absolutely required, the proper rule is to write with some improvised instrument dripped in a red fluid not ordinarily employed for ink. It would be more correct to call the Pooja the "No-Pen-and-ink Festival"!

ACCORDING to the *Morning Post*, Cashmere is threatened with a new disaster—air-quake. The description given of it is that it is "almost indefinable. The atmosphere seems convulsed at times, and you feel as if an invisible agency were striving hard to off with your head." That informant is clearly in danger, and he knows it, poor man!—the second person being figuratively used for the singular first. As for the country, there need, perhaps, be no great anxiety respecting an evil too impalpable for definition.

THE *People's Friend* notices the last administration Report of the Vizagapatam Agency (for 1886-87.) Our contemporary admires the literary workmanship of Mr. H. G. Turner, the Agent to the Governor. It adds—

"With the exception of Mr. Carmichael and Mr. Sullivan, former Government Agents, there are none in the Service who write in the pleasing, unofficial style; that is, for fear of being snubbed as flippant, they give us bare facts and statistics in the baldest language imaginable."

We are told that the literature of the Report "has not been acceptable to Mr. Secretary Stokes, whose G.O.'s are epigrammatic." Is that last

word a loyal periphrasis for *jejune*? Or does our contemporary mean simply *laconic*, without implying brilliancy or neatness?

DR. P. M. GUPTA, Civil Surgeon, Tura, has been invested with the powers of a Magistrate, Third Class, under the Criminal Procedure Code, and with those of an Assistant-Commissioner under the Garo Hills Rules, within the Garo Hills. Dr. Gupta belongs to a rather remarkable family of East Bengal. He is himself a worthy man of rare modesty.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE *Mandalay Herald* draws attention to the admirable silk that is produced in Upper Burma from the Tussore Moth. It seems finer and more uniform in quality than the Indian silk, while the very rude methods of Burmese manufacture succeed in producing a far more even texture than in the Indian article.

From time to time attempts were made to start mills in Mandalay; and the enlightened and doubly versatile Mindon Min, who dabbled in all sorts of experiments, did not overlook this industry, but, as usual, nothing came out of his attention. The industry remains in almost its primitive state. Scarcely any care is taken in saving the cocoons; and no effort is made to prepare the raw silk for the European market, where its fine thread, good colour, evenness, strength, elasticity, and readiness to absorb dye, should command a high price.

Our contemporary suggests the exportation of the silk, for which there is a considerable demand in England and the Continent as well as Australia. The supply of the worm may be indefinitely increased. Enormous quantities, brought to the markets by the villagers of the woods, are eaten. Lightly fried, the caterpillar is good eating.

Meanwhile, a brisk trade might arise if European Society in the East can be induced to appreciate the durable qualities, in substance and colour, of the silk goods of Burma, which may be produced to any patterns prescribed to the native weavers. The ordinary stuffs lack body, but the superior descriptions are quite substantial, while all kinds are pure in material and soft, and, besides, drape well. According to the writer:—

"A couple of matched putsoe lengths, though expensive, would prove a far more acceptable present than the coarse jewelry of the country; and a far wiser investment than the purchase of the sham or valueless rubies with which the local market is flooded. Besides these cummerbunds, handkerchiefs, and all manner of materials can be purchased; and any one anxious to reap smiles (and who is not?) would do far better in the Zuyoe, than by embarking his hard-earned rupees in the purchase of boxwallas' goods, which can be brought at half the local rates in any Indian bazaar."

If the silks are so good as represented, and not too costly, we can promise a market nearer home, to begin with. We certainly see the numerous Burmese prisoners of state brought over, and the respectable fugitives who have followed in their wake, clad in beautiful stuffs, but whether they are indigenous or foreign it is difficult to say. We should like to have an opportunity of examining some samples of native manufacture. China is the source of sericulture throughout the world, and it still maintains a considerable reputation. The extra-Gangetic Peninsula is the natural tail of the Flowery Empire, ethnographically as well as geographically. What wonder that it should follow the trunk country!

THE *Pioneer* has formed the following opinion, as at present advised, of the ruling Chief of Indore:—

"A crisis will ere long occur in the Indore State unless Maharajah Holkar chooses to set his house in order, and live like a reasonable and reputable person. We understand that he does no work whatever, and that his whole time is given to the society of persons of whose character the less said the better to Paris polite. He has quarrelled with all his relations and receives no visitors, not even his Minister, Dewan Raghonath Rao, a man of worth and high attainments, who does his best to prevent matters coming to deadlock. But he is anxious to leave the sinking ship, as are all officials of any character. The Maharajah is entirely in the hands of astrologers, and he is not three days in a fortnight on which he is not afraid to take action for fear of the anger of the stars. That his abject superstition is taken advantage of by his shameless favourites for their own interest is a matter of course, and the scandal which the personal habits of Holkar and his absolute neglect of his State duties produce will ere long necessitate the active interference of Government."

We have a little question to interpose in the poor Maharaja's behalf and in that of his fellow Indians in general. There seems, in

that passage, a disposition to sneer at our people for their folly and basenesses, but these are by no means peculiar to them. Superstition, for example, is not confined to Indore, nor are stars a bugbear only in the East. The appearance of a comet, as the occurrence of a destructive earthquake, causes anxiety in the breast of millions in Christendom as in Heathen lands. In the present instance, the geographical source of the superstition may well be a point in issue. Which astrology does the Holkar swear by, European or Asiatic? Does the Prince regulate his movements by the system of Tycho Brahe or that of Varaha Mihir? Is the almanac of Zadkiel or Moore followed by the Indore Court, or the almanac of the Mahratta Sastris?

The *Pioneer* evidently regards a Prince's astrological proclivity a bad sign in his political horoscope or horizon. It probably remembers that Tiberius showed the same disposition. But history in this matter is like the High Court—rich in contradictory precedents. Our contemporary might, if it chose, also recollect that Domitian—a scarcely more savoury name than Tiberius—banished astrology from the Empire by edict. In the East, astrology has always been officially recognised and established. Not only the Hindus but all the Moguls, great and small, firmly believed in it. Mahomed Shah may have been weak, but neither Aurungzebe nor Akbar ever ordered a movement without leave of the stars ascertained through the Court astrologers, or without consulting the other experts in divination. Nor is it a weakness of Orientals only. Not to mention Queens like Catherine deMedici, the illustrious ancestor of our present Premier was himself a famous professor of astrology. May not a Holkar show a preference sanctioned by the great name of Burleigh?

We have no desire to support any of our Princes in misgovernment, but they should not be made the victim of what, though reckoned as a sign of enlightenment, may possibly be a modern prejudice.

NOTWITHSTANDING the progress of international knowledge, by reason of the facilities for inter-communication and the fashion of travel in recent years, the nations are still but imperfectly informed of even the commonest concerns and conditions of other countries. Even professional politicians in England, from time to time, discover the most hazy notions of the political systems in vogue on the Continent, specially among the lesser Powers and minor states. Of the actual working of the constitutions, they are still more ignorant. Relying upon the indifference of their constituency, the recognised suppliers of foreign intelligence in the Press do not care to keep strict watch over the home affairs of any but the principal nations. In India and the Colonies, we are worse served.

We have been led to these remarks by the little interest which has been taken in the exciting parliamentary contest lately and possibly still going on, in Sweden. That country has been in the throes of a political struggle, as yet bloodless indeed, but which may any day develop into a fiercer demonstration. Without speculating on the future, it is clear that one of the European Constitutions is being strained to the utmost and may snap. Perhaps the democratic theory itself is on its trial. We sigh of Hind who aspire to representative institutions, may well profit by the experience of others and learn a lesson of cautious deliberation.

The Swedish Parliament is composed of two Chambers of Deputies, both of popular election, the First of 136 and the Second of 204 representatives. Of these 204 Deputies, Stockholm alone sends twenty-two. As the procedure of election is by *scrutin de liste*, all the twenty-two are voted for *en bloc*. The necessary consequence of this absurd method is, that the ineligibility of a single unit of the body of representatives so elected vitiates the whole body. Not only that, but the next ticket or batch has the chance and is reckoned to be elected, subject, of course, to being set aside on the same objection. One would suppose, specially from our experience of the loose way in which candidates for municipal election in town and country are passed in this country, that such invalidation must often occur. As a matter of fact, such a case has happened. The Stockholm election of September last was questioned on the same ground. Any elector can bring the question before the Courts. Thus a workman who was elected has been challenged on the ground that he did not pay his taxes for 1881 and 1882. A similar point arose in the first election for the Calcutta Municipality in 1876, but Sir Stuart Hogg took upon himself to smooth matters by his ruling and the town was content to abide by it. In Sweden, however, there was a fierce party contest and

the defeated party stuck to the letter of the Constitution. The Court supported their contention, and ordered the next set of twenty-two to be counted. Now that is "no joke." It is usually a disaster, and may be destruction. It means devolution of power from one Party to another. In the present case, involving as it does the ejectment of Free Traders in favour of Protectionists, it means the triumph of a principle—an evil principle as we all have been taught. The only hope in the situation lies in the fact that the arbitrament of the courts is not yet determined. The judgment of the court of first instance has been carried to, and is being fought before, a higher tribunal. It may possibly be upset there. If the judgment is finally confirmed, it will tax all the prudence of the Scandinavian Teutons to prevent a crash or a collapse.

WE have received Dayaram Gidumal Shahan's *Life and Life-work of Behramji Malabari*, and shall try to notice it another time. Meanwhile, we are exceedingly glad to see the excellent spirit which the opponents in the press of the hero of the book are showing in the connection. Difference of opinion cannot be helped, and is, indeed, a necessary discipline. What is bad is that, under it, we should lose sight of facts and hold of reason. The nations of the West are far from presenting a good model for imitation. Still, in Europe and America, they have the wisdom to cultivate directly good relations with one's own party. In India, we of the soil, are a host without a head—a rabble of units without cohesion. No respect is lost between us, because none ever existed. Differences lead to estrangement, because they are recklessly cherished and bitterly expressed. We are apt to ignore the unity under diversity, and to exalt trifling personal regards and personal antipathies. We rejoice at the good example shown by the *Mahratta*. That journal has fought Mr. Malabari more determinedly and valiantly than any other. The organ of the powerful intellectual Brahmanocracy of Poona, it has, throughout the long agitation for widow marriage and against polygamy and infant-marriage, scouted the pretensions of the great Parsee Reformer of Hindu social usages and sought to expose his errors. But now when the question is reduced to the worth of the man, no one is more ready to do him justice. We quote the opening sentence of the tribute:—

"Whatever opinion one may have of Mr. B. M. Malabari and his social reform agitation, it can not be gainsaid that he has made a name for himself, that he has achieved his eminence by no backstairs influence and that he is a man of singular capacity, intelligence and perseverance."

Our contemporary does not hesitate to say that the much-abused Parsee "is honestest than many a would-be reformer among our people." It adds—

"It was necessary that the life of such a man should be briefly but forcibly sketched by some able hand, and we congratulate Mr. Dayaram Gidumal Shahan on the very excellent way in which he has discharged his duty of biographer."

THE opening of a railway and the laying of the corner-stone of a new settlement, must make a week memorable in the annals of a Native State. Such, towards the end of last month, has been the good fortune of Junaghad. A still more striking evidence of luck is the fact that the new settlement has been christened Wodehousepore, not out of respect to a past Governor of the Presidency but to commemorate the present Political Agent, who is said to be a popular officer.

The *Indian Spectator* says:—

"We notice with much pleasure the unity and concord existing between the Mahomedan and Hindu subjects of the Nawab, enrolled, as they are, under a common standard, owing fealty to the same ruler, and living peaceably as citizens and neighbours of the same country, making their interests identical the one with the other. These facts are a valuable set-off, at the present moment, against the representations of those who persist in showing up, on every possible occasion, the want of sympathy between the two races, so widely different, as they are, in their religious convictions, in their habits and usages."

That is not a party "dodge," nor a random hit. It is a simple fact that in the Nawab's territory both sects live in peace and harmony. Only on Wednesday last, we were visited by a brace of Hindu Fakcers from that State who, in answer to our inquiry, not only showed good feeling towards Mussulmans but also their satisfaction with the administration. Were the Hindus well treated? Was there no oppression or harshness? we asked. The answer was brief but pregnant. Harshness there was, but only towards evil doers—thieves, brigands, murderers and so forth, said they; as for the Hindus they were well protected, encouragement being shown in especial to pilgrims and religious men of every denomination.

WE are so accustomed, freely and without stint, to exercise the noble privilege of criticising the Government we have the happiness to live under, that it would be unfair and undutiful to withhold a bit of testimony in its favour obtained by us in this connection. We asked the Sanyasees whose usual abode is the Girnar hills, how many of them started and travelled together? They did not understand us and almost resented the idea of their fraternising with lay travellers. We said there may have been other pilgrims or at least other Sanyasees. There were none, and they recognised no necessity of combination. They almost thought us incoherent. Such is the difference that a few short years may make! There could not be a greater proof of the blessings of British Government. We now came upon them with our claim for that Government. This freedom and security of travelling alone and unimpeded, without risk or anxiety, all the way from one end of India to the other, which they had themselves enjoyed, was due simply to the British in India—to the peace they have established and the crime they have stamped out. It is not so very long since the period when in India, as in Central and Western Asia at this day, it was necessary for travellers, commercial and other, to go from place to place in *Kafilas*. Even pilgrims and mendicants were reduced to the same precaution. And now we are got so used to our happiness that a Sanyasee does not grasp the meaning of inquiry into the numerical strength of the party with whom he has journeyed from Katiawar to Gunga Saugor and Pooree!

They readily and cordially admitted all that we said in praise of our Government. It is not at all necessary, they said, to wait for any body else's convenience or to crowd together on the way. There is no danger and no difficulty. The roads are first class and protected, to say nothing of the wondrous road of iron.

PERHAPS many of our readers—of the more reverent disposition—will prefer to hear of religion and the mystery of the universe in connection with our visitors. They may well wonder whether we have nothing wonderful to relate. We have. At any rate, we shall mention, for what it may be worth, one of the things we saw. Before doing so, we must state a few particulars. The two men form one party, composed of the principal or the *Mahatma* and his disciple, who acts as guide and servant. The latter is by far the senior in age—the former is almost a boy—not more than eighteen or nineteen years of age. He is a taciturn young man of apparent simplicity and purity, without the excessive punctiliousness of other Brahmans. He took his seat and lounged on a bed used by men of all castes and races. He was offered something to eat. He declined, but this was nonsense, for he was doubtless prepared by the person who brought him. But he did not give us the trouble of coaxing him for any length. A “dish” of sweetmeats steeped in syrup was brought by a man with shoes on and laid on the bed. He complained they were too many. He was told that it did not matter, he might take as much as he could. He submitted with a smile and called for water, which was brought in a brass pot (*lotli*). He took some of the water and washed his hands and mouth, and then, strangely enough, and with ease, he brought forth by the mouth, from his stomach or some inner cavity, a small *Saligram* or somewhat oval-shaped stone used as a symbol of Vishnu for daily worship by Brahmans. Towards this pebble he observed a simple form of worship, muttering some *mantras*, and offered it the sweetmeats. After this, the divine stone was put into the mouth and was apparently swallowed up again.

THE vanity of literature on which Henry Rogers eloquently discoursed in the *Edinburgh Review* in 1849, and in respect of which writers like the elder Disraeli have collected so much information, is vividly illustrated by the conclusion which has been arrived at by a recent inquirer:—

“That only 50 books out of every 1000 survive seven years' publicity. Only about 60 books of the 50,000 publications of the 18th century are now in print.”

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Travellers and Emigrants.—Those who cross the seas change the climate, but they do not change the constitution. The altered conditions of life, the exigencies of travel and other causes render the traveller and emigrant peculiarly liable to diseases and accidents when far from efficient medical aid. With these associated remedies at hand they may be said to have a physician always at their call, and they may be certain that situations will be constantly arising in which they will require a ready resource in time of need. The directions for use which accompany each box and pot of Holloway's Pills and Ointment are written in plain and simple language, and are applicable in all cases.

FROM a comparison of returns, it appears that the number of readers in the British Museum is more than double those in the National Library of Paris, while each of the former borrows from two to three times as many books as a French reader. The difference is easily explained. In Paris, the number of volumes issued to a single reader in a day, is limited to three or four, while in London a reader can have as many as he likes. A more fruitful source of difference is the fact that in the French Library a reader is not allowed to examine the catalogue; this is done for him by officials. He writes the name of the book he wants and learns twenty minutes after if the work is procurable; if not, he writes another name, waits another twenty minutes, and so on. In London, the catalogue is open to every one, and books are delivered by attendants at readers' seats. The economy of time and temper is obvious. Herein clearly they do *not* order the matter better in France.

LORD DUFFERIN has again passed the Indian test of an auspicious reign. There was rain all day and night on Thursday, incessantly, if not in torrents. It was a cold and cheerless day and for those who were forced to go out, a nasty one. Luckily the sun rose next morning as glorious as ever and not quite formidable as usual.

A few days earlier the rain would have spoiled the late Chapter of the Order of the Indian Empire which, originally announced to be held within doors at Government House, was at the last moment relegated to the grounds, and under canvas. It passed off without a hitch on last Saturday at about noon. We are glad to see the claims of the Nawab of Moorshedabad and the Maharajas of Vizianagram and Durbhunga recognised. As three of the most eminent Princes and Chiefs of the right section of the inverted triangle, their connection gives honor and importance to the Order itself.

Both the Home Member and the Law Member, as well as the Lieutenant-Governors and Governors of the day, evidently recognise the understanding which gives the children of the soil a claim upon officials in such exalted positions, over and above the ordinary duties of their several offices. They lately visited the Kumboliatola Boys' Reading Rooms, an institution which owes much to the interest and liberality of Professor Stack of the Presidency College (now Principal designate, we believe, of the Krishnaghur College) and Mr. Justice Norris. They were at the Oriental Seminary too. Mr. Scoble presided at a young men's debating society, delivering a good address. In that position he naturally delivered the staple remark on the usefulness of such associations—though there is another view of the matter—but he made one noteworthy point that we remember, namely that the people fail in a spirit of independence. It is however important enough to bear separate treatment hereafter.

The Lieutenant-Governor has been distributing school prizes. At the Oriental Seminary, His Honor made a remark much to our taste on the frivolity of speech-making and the weakness for speech-hunting. Sir Stuart Bayley braved all the horrors of Thursday's weather in order to take the chair at the Madras anniversary.

THE most important meeting of the week was that of Lady Dufferin's Fund for the supply of medical relief to the women of India. The Viceroy presided. The Hon'ble Mr. Scoble in moving the first resolution gave an account of the finances and the operations. He was followed by Dr. Sircar in an ingenious and well-delivered speech. Lord Connemara spoke briefly and well for Madras, reminding one of his lamented brother who once ruled over India. The Lieutenant-Governor maintained his growing reputation as a speaker. The other speakers were Durbhunga and Moorshedabad and the Syed Ameer Hossein. The Chairman closed with a most animated address in which he made a graceful allusion to his zenana. With true knightly courage, yet without any unchivalric self-consciousness, he gave his personal testimony to his illustrious consort's zeal and absorbing interest in her philanthropic work. In fact speaker after speaker rose to testify to the head and heart she devoted to the Association. The Viceroy from the necessity of his rôle dealt in thanks and showered compliments all round, so that his speech reminded one of Sydney Smith's parody of the weak side of Mackintosh's oratory. But there was no true resemblance between the two. His praises were all thoroughly deserved by their respective objects, not the least deserving among whom is Major Cooper, the Honorary Secretary, who has worked with singular earnestness and judgment.

THE Chapter was followed on Tuesday evening by a party at Government House which was more numerously attended than any in this season. There was more ethnic variety too, and of course a more interesting display of costume. On both occasions we missed the presence of our Academician who would have delighted in the scenes, and possibly enriched art by fixing them on canvas. Unfortunately Mr. Archer was ailing during the whole period. We hope he is all right by this.

WE rejoice to be able to report that Raja Dr. Rajendralala Mitra is doing better.

Our good neighbour Baboo Srinath Dass's brilliant but wayward and unfortunate eldest son Baboo Upendra Das, we are glad, is coming back to his native land.

A GREAT retired Indian and a famous jurist and journalist has passed away in Sir Henry Maine, whose death is telegraphed from London.

THE Government of India has just received a telegram from Teheran dated the 9th instant reporting the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel Yates in Tiflis. His party appears to have been exceptionally well received and entertained by the Russian Transcaspian authorities.

NOTES AND QUIRIES.

WANIED - A SYNONYM.

From the time of the early reformers so much has been talked regarding the remarriage of women after the loss of a husband, that many men are ready to go to fits at the sound. *Widow-marrriage*, it must be admitted, is a vile compound of a word. It was time enough for a handy synonym in the *gamy* series. Why not have *vidogamy*? Suppose you started *widowgamy*, the second *w* would soon be dropped as a superfluity, and the first is naturally changeable to *v*. After all, our old friend Mr. Weller, Senior, is one of Nature's creation, and his *lingo* quite conforms to Grimm's Code.

When a Bengali-speaking gentleman describes the importunity of another in connection especially with any request or solicitation, he describes the other as *Sapi Debi*, *Sud Debi kurila*. Numerous as are the gods and goddesses of the Puranic pantheon, have you, Mr. Editor, ever heard of any goddesses called *Sapi* and *Sari*? Whence then this saying? Will any of your numerous readers answer?

K.

Calcutta, 10th February, 1888.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1888.

THE VICEREGAL NOTICE TO QUIT.

THE news of the week is the resignation of Lord Dufferin. The following official intelligence was circulated by the Press Commissioner on the 8th instant:—

"The Earl of Dufferin having requested Her Majesty's Government to permit him to resign the Viceroyalty of India at the expiration of the fourth year of his term, he will be succeeded by the Marquis of Lansdowne the present Governor-General of Canada who may be expected to arrive in India towards the end of the present year."

Regard being had to the nature of the subject and considering that a number of communications must have passed between Lord Dufferin and the Secretary of State—even though in the shape of cypher telegrams—the secret must be confessed to have been very well kept. Nor has there been any favoritism, either in this country or in England. This is the first time that important intelligence of this kind is communicated to the Indian public frankly and freely, and without partiality. We hope we shall not again be condemned to the reproach of getting our Indian news through the *Times* or *Vanity Fair*.

Various speculations are afloat as to the causes of such a sudden step. Many are those who attribute it to differences with the Conservative Cabinet. It

is certainly difficult to assign political acts to other than political causes. But so far as our information goes, private claims have decided Lord Dufferin. The demands of property may be as urgent as the responsibilities of public duty, and even the temptations of private fortune it may sometimes be simply Quixotic to resist. They who are blessed with abundance of the good things of this world must submit to the burdens imposed as they enjoy the benefits.

No man of delicacy will fail to recognise the prudence and propriety with which this important news is conveyed. The communication is made a sufficient time after the important fiscal measures of this season have been launched. Freedom of opinion has had full play. Public criticism has not been stifled before-hand by the announcement of a "farewell night," as it were, in the theatre of public affairs. Above all, a sufficient chronological margin is left to obviate violent private disappointment as well as to prevent the slightest disruption of public interests.

We only fear the margin may not be sufficient for making up for Lord Dufferin as great a name in Indian history as his magnificent powers and accomplishments are capable of earning.

The news has created a sensation. Few men have ever been brought within the range of the Viceroy's personal influence without feeling it profoundly. Many in all parts will receive it with almost a sense of personal bereavement. Even political oppositionists who are worth anything know that the loss of a finished statesman who has passed his local noviciate, is not easy to replace. It is intolerable that just as our Proconsul, ceased to be a griffin and was thoroughly seasoned for his great office, he set himself to negotiate for a successor to make over charge. For one thing, Lord Dufferin has added to his many accomplishments and means for successful Eastern administration a good knowledge of Oriental languages, including a familiarity with what may be called the French of the East. He is the only *khas* importation of a Viceroy who has had this advantage. None else could converse directly with a native of the country or an Indian Prince or a representative of any Asiatic Power.

[Since this article was in the press, we turned with trepidation to His Excellency's speech in Council yesterday, on his resignation. Luckily we have nothing to alter.]

ZEMINDARY ZOOLUM.

THE French say there are faggots *and* faggots. We say there are Zemindars *and* Zemindars. Strong as our sympathies are on behalf of the Zemindars as a class, and jealous as we always are of legislative attacks on their undoubted rights, we are constrained to admit that there are those amongst them whose conduct almost justifies the revolutionary legislation of the period and the prejudices entertained against them as a body by men in power. Happily, however, for the interests of the order, the black sheep are few and may be counted on the fingers' ends. Utterly forgetful of their critical position at a time when the whole statesmanship of Lord Cornwallis is openly called in question, when, in fact, a deliberate covenant, hoary with the solemnity of age, and made with every formality that could impress the world with its binding force, trembles for its existence in view of a specious sophistry impatient of argument, they persistently provoke by their conduct the very friends of the cause to throw them over-board and keep their enemies in countenance.

A memorial addressed to Sir Stuart Bayley is lying before ~~us~~ signed by over two hundred persons, veritable rayyets dependent on the produce of their fields, which discloses a pitiable state of things. It is certainly an *ex parte* statement presenting only one side of the picture. But supported as the allegations are by a tabulated reference appended at the end, and consistent as they are with what we ourselves know of the arts employed for breaking the spirit of an independent tenantry, we have little reason to suspect their truth. The case is eminently one that demands a prompt and searching enquiry, and we have no doubt the Government of Bengal will do its duty.

Baboo Harihar Mookerjee of Uttarpara, who enjoys the unenviable distinction of having gone to law with the very author of his being and fortunes, and who is a brother of that Monohar *alias* Jogendranath Mookerjee whose treatment of the rayyets of Gangadharpore immediately occasioned many of the drastic sections in the present law of landlord and tenant for Bengal, owns a village in *dur-patni*, by name Uttarbār-hjāmpardāh, not many miles to the west of Howrah. Many of the *jummahs* owned by the rayyets of Jhampardah have been stated to be ancestral ones, held from generation to generation, dating back, if not really, at least under presumption of the law, to the Permanent Settlement. Without vouching for the truth of the statement made in the memorial, that ever since Babu Harihar has entered into possession of the village, he has left no means, including even physical violence, untried for enhancing the rents of the rayyets, there is unmistakable evidence to show that the Babu, like his brother in the case of the Gangadharpore tenants, has done his best to convert the Civil Courts into an effective engine of harassment and oppression for gaining his end. *Kist* after *kist*, four times during a year, the rayyets of Jhampardah have been depositing their rents in Court for the last eighteen years. In spite, however, of such deposits, presumably occasioned by the landlord's refusal to accept the rents when tendered in the village cutchery, suits against the rayyets for arrears are instituted, not by dozens but by hundreds. The history of this Civil litigation, the memorialists divide into three periods, which they respectively call the Ampta period, the Howrah Period under Act VIII of 1869, and the Howrah Period (not yet ended) under the present law of landlord and tenant. The two first periods do not call for any particular remark, except that, during what is called the Ampta period, when Jhampardah was within the jurisdiction of Ampta, a heroic effort was made by Babu Harihar for introducing monthly *kists*. Suits from three to four hundred in number were instituted and carried in appeal up to the High Court. The result was a failure to enforce monthly *kists*. Quarterly *kists* were the custom of the village, and were affirmed by the highest court of appeal. Baulked in the acquisition of his great end, the landlord began next to institute quarterly suits against his tenants. He was, however, met by judicial officers who knew their duty. Babus Baloram Mullick, Purno Chandra Shome, Taraprosunno Bannerjee, and Kedarnath Roy uniformly dismissed these suits, on proof of deposit in Court by the defendant rayyets. Many of these officers, again, by private interference, induced the landlord's agents to accept the rents brought for deposit. Sometimes, indeed, the landlord sued original proprietors who had transferred their tenures, even after recognition of the transferees by acceptance of rents from them.

These suits, however, were all promptly dismissed, and the penalty clauses of the law inexorably enforced. In fact, whatever the arts employed by the landlord during the two first periods (1871-1886), the rayyets were protected as far as they could be consistently with the law under which they lived.

During, however, what has been called the Howrah Period (not yet ended) under Act VIII of 1885, the rayyets have been subjected to a course of treatment that is simply astounding. We do not know which to condemn most, the unscrupulousness of the landlord, or the carelessness and indifference of the judicial officers which have made that unscrupulousness possible. Suits against original proprietors of tenures, notwithstanding the previous recognition of the transferees, are common. Rayyets again, are constantly sued for arrears in spite of deposits by them in Court. All these suits are decreed by the Moonsiffs on grounds that are simply extraordinary. Unable to scrape together the amounts payable by them, together with the costs both authorised and nameless, till within a few days of the expiry of the *kist*, the tenants, even after they have got the amounts in hand, have to wait for the leisure of the more knowing and intelligent ones among them to escort them to Court for superintending or otherwise facilitating their deposits there, for it is not every man having his rents ready and the costs of deposit that can actually deposit them in Court. No wonder, therefore, that the applications for deposit are generally made within only a day or two of the expiry of the *kist*. These applications require to be numbered and registered before actual deposits are permitted to be made or accepted. Considering the number of the applicants and the insufficiency in general of the ministerial establishments of the Civil Courts, two or three days elapse before the numbering and registration of the applications are completed. The landlord, however, being ready with his complaints, files them on the very first day after the expiry of the *kist* and, therefore, a day or two before the deposits are actually made. Having a well-paid legal agency on the alert, aided, besides, by a zealous establishment of mohurirs, he can always outstrip the rayyets in their race for time, making, if necessary, the *amlah* more dilatory than usual. When the cases are called, the defendants urge the Court's own *laches* for explaining the delay in deposit, but this avails them nothing. The landlord's complaints having preceded these deposits, the suits are all decreed. Sometimes, again, evidence of actual tender at the village cutchery is called for, before holding the defendants entitled to deposit. In vain the latter urge that they have nothing to gain on earth or in heaven by coming all the way from their village to court for depositing their rents, incurring additional costs, worry and annoyance, and loss of time, all of which they would escape if their rents were actually accepted in the village cutchery. The sapient Judges, however, who administer the law at Howrah are inexorable. They cannot presume anything, no, not even the disadvantages the defendants suffer by coming to Court *kist* after *kist* for depositing their rents. They must have evidence of actual tender at the landlord's cutchery. And then by a rule of evidence invented on the Surrey side of the river by these luminaries of the law, the evidence of witnesses who have themselves been sued by the landlord, if not actually inadmissible, is at least unreliable. It is difficult to say all we feel at conduct such as this.

Although the catalogue of the rayyets' woes would, without anything further, be complete, yet this is not all. What comes below would transcend belief but for the memorialists citing chapter and verse. In a great many instances, the amounts sued for are veritable trifles, being fractions of Her Majesty's copper currency in India and aliquots of indigenous *couries*. These again are reduced further in the fine scales used by the Howrah Gamaliels, which would be harmless as only proving the infinite divisibility of matter, but for the costs of the proceedings, which sometimes swell to a hundred times the amounts decreed. In decrees, again, so made, executions are issued against the persons and properties of the judgment-debtors, although sums sufficient to satisfy the decrees are all the while held in deposit in court. To save themselves from ignominy, they have on these occasions to satisfy the decrees by fresh payments, with liberty (which, it is to be hoped, they highly prize for its evident simplicity) to withdraw their deposits in court, incurring additional costs and loss of time. Worse still, sometimes the landlord, having withdrawn the amounts to his credit in court, takes out executions afresh and compels the judgment-debtors to pay him once more. We hope a sifting enquiry will be made into the truth of these allegations in particular, and if, as we believe, they are found to be true, nothing less than criminal prosecutions should be ordered for checking their recurrence in future. Averse as we constitutionally are to see civil proceedings terminate criminally, there are cases in which we feel bound to surrender our feelings.

BOOK-WORMS & FRUIT-WORMS.

"A Book-Worm" writes to the *Statesman* :—

"In my library of some two thousand volumes, a considerable number of the books have been attacked by book-worms and other insects which reside in and consume these treasures. The curious point is this, that of the volumes bound in England and other countries of Europe, very few indeed have been touched by the insects, while all of those bound in India have been attacked by them. The *cloth*, moreover, of the volumes bound in this country is covered with, what the bookbinder will understand if I call it, 'white leprosy.' The inference evidently is, that there is something in the paste used in Indian book-binding which the insects are fond of; or, conversely, that there is something in the paste used by binders in Europe which these creatures do not like. Now, it strikes me that if some enterprising Indian binder could ascertain what the substance is that keeps these destructive creatures away from books bound in Europe, he would be a benefactor to the public, and would greatly increase his own business if he were to adopt the specific."

The two chief enemies of literature are the silver fish and the white ant, and their ways are different. Both seem partial to the mealy Indian *lei* or *kāi*. But they are by no means content to feast upon the substance of the binding only, but make havoc upon the books themselves. Therein the white ant is the greater sinner by far and a truly formidable pest. The silver fish is a pretty little dear, fleet like a gazelle, and beautiful like a miniature *hilsa*, living upon the ambrosia of muslin and guaze—the richest and highest velvet and satin, and delicate like a hectic heroine of romance. Were it not for the injury it does to the best treasures of mankind, it would be entirely a lovely and beloved thing. Still its depredations are feeble and limited compared with the ruin caused by the white worm. The silver fish hovers about the precincts, confines itself to the boards—with occasional excursions into the interior. The white ant is bolder and frequently cuts through a book from cover to cover. But it is not every kind of letterpress that attracts it. We have seen it frequently pass over intermediate volumes to fix itself on more congenial literature. The truth is, it delights in certain kinds of paper. All kinds are not

equally repulsive or equally welcome. Its taste is akin to that of students among men. Some books it will feed upon for nourishment, without particular pleasure. Others, it takes to with enthusiasm. Ordinarily, it bores tunnels through your books; but some volumes it not only devours but actually builds upon and settles upon. Builds upon, did we say? It builds into them, digging subterranean chambers, converting your pages into elaborate structures of unglazed earth, evolved apparently out of the depths of a mysterious laboratory. It is a sad sight to see volumes to which the white ant has taken a fancy for some little time. They are a heap of ruins.

From this Vandal there is no preservative, except constant inspection and weeding. Neither camphor nor turpentine scares it away; *neem* leaves and *jeera* it eats through. Lime is no good. Highly arsenicized paper such as is used in Sanskrit MSS. alone seems to keep it out for any length. Still, as there are many books which it evidently avoids, there must be something in the quality of some descriptions of paper which repels it. Such books ought to be examined, and the paper used differentiated from other kinds, and books printed by preference in those which resist the encroachments of the enemy. We offer these desultory observations for what they are worth. The whole subject should be regularly studied. The habits of the book-worms ought to be watched. Considering the great part that printing and stores of printed matter play in our modern civilisation, considering the mere money sunk in the production and preservation of inscribed paper, &c., to say nothing of the dependence on them of human enlightenment and progress and happiness; it is a wonder that no systematic inquiry has been made into the matter either by individuals or by bodies of men or by states. The subject is one eminently worthy of our new Microscopic Society. We drew public attention to the ravages committed by insects on two of our noblest and most valuable fruit-trees—to the cocoanut and the mango. Whether Government took any notice of our cry, we do not know; but it was not altogether unheard of of the public. At least one enthusiastic student of science took up the inquiry and he seems to have achieved some success. Mr. W. J. Simmons, we see, read on Monday at the Microscopic Society a paper on the Mango Weevil. Some other microscopist might well pursue the book-worms, and if he can tell us what they positively shun, he will be a real friend of knowledge and a benefactor of his kind.

MONGHYR.

Jamalpur, February 7.

The 12th anniversary of the Monghyr *Arya Sava* went off with great *eclat* this year. The ceremony in connection therewith lasted four days. Two Hindu Missionaries attached to the *Bharatpora Arya Dharma Procharini Sava*, Benares, viz., Sree Krishna Prasano Sen, and Ambica Dutta Byas, were invited on the occasion. They delivered a series of lectures and sermons in Bengali and Hindi respectively. There was a *Sunkertan* procession, after distribution of prizes to the pupils attached to the Sanscrit Patshala and reward given to the Behari Brahmin Pandits according to their respective honors of titles—and alms to the poor.

The culprits who attempted the murder of Modho Dass, and the Behari woman respectively, of whom allusion was made in my previous letters, have feigned insanity and are now in the Lunatic Asylum.

A horrible case of murder took place on the night of the 6th instant in Keshabpur in the vicinity of Jamalpur. A Behari elderly woman had some jewellery in her possession and partly worn on the person. Some Budmashes, with a view to rob them, managed to come into the house at dead of night and serve their ends, but having had to struggle for a silver necklace that was on her person for a length of time, they gagged her mouth and subsequently strangled her with a rope. This is a case that requires serious attention. What are the Police about?

NOTICE.

The undermentioned lots of the Dhurruamtollah Market, the property of the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta, will be put up for sale by public auction, if not previously disposed of, at the Municipal Office, on Monday, the 5th March 1888, at 1 P. M.

Lot No.	Nature of existing Superstructure.	Approximate area of superstructure in S. ft.	Area of land in the lot more or less.	Estimated monthly rental.	Total rent of each lot.
6	Lower-roomed house, 2 chandnies	3,748	B. C. Ch. Sft.	Rs. As.	Rs. As.
"	Ditto 18 doors at Rs. 3 each...	2,224	.....	65 0	131 0
"	Ditto 1 room ...		0 12 10 6	54 0	
"	Ditto 9 shops at Rs. 10 each...	1,653	.....	12 0	90 0
10	Ditto 4 shops at Rs. 4 each...	1,653	0 2 4 33	90 0	
11	Ditto 5 shops at Rs. 10 each...		.....	16 0	66 0
"	Ditto 10 shops ...	1,734	0 2 4 33	50 0	
12	Ditto 11 shops ...	1,734	0 3 1 35	35 10	35 10
13	Portion of occupied land about 442 s. ft	1,890	.....	42 3	45 3
"	Lower-roomed house, 5 shops	.....	0 3 3 37	3 0	
"	Ditto 1 stable and a room	.....	.....	45 6	80 6
"	Tenanted land	.....	0 9 9 12	10 0	
20	Ditto	.....	.....	25 0	45 0
21	Lower-roomed building in ruins	.....	0 10 10 38	45 0	
"	Tenanted land	546	.....	24 0	30 0
"	Tenanted land	.....	0 3 4 0	6 0	

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

1. The Commissioners' limit which has been fixed by a Special Committee appointed for the purpose, will be kept in a closed cover by the Chairman, and the highest bidder above this limit, is to be the purchaser; if any dispute arise as to the last or highest bidding for the lot, the same shall be put up again and resold.
2. A deposit of 25 per cent on the amount of the purchase-money is to be made by the purchaser immediately upon the lot being knocked down, and in default thereof, the premises to be immediately put up and resold at the risk of the purchaser.
3. The title to the property will be a conveyance from the Commissioners.
4. The residue of the purchase-money shall be paid within 15 days of the date of sale; and in case of default in payment of such residue, the purchaser shall forfeit his deposit, which shall be received and taken as and by way of liquidated damages, the sale to such purchaser shall be wholly at an end, and the Commissioners shall be at liberty to resell the same without any reference to such first purchaser, but at his risk.
5. The Commissioners will, if required, furnish a deed of conveyance, such conveyance being prepared by the Solicitors of the Corporation at the expense of the purchaser, who will likewise have to bear the cost of the stamp duty and registration and of any attested copies of deeds or covenants to produce those that may be required.
6. The Commissioners will enter into no other covenant than that they have done no act to encumber.
7. A lithographed plan of the Market, divided into the lots notified for sale, may be had at the Municipal Office, from the undersigned, on payment of eight annas.

R. TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

4th February 1888.

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For INDIA and all HOT CLIMATES this sweetly scented emollient Milk is INVALUABLE. IT KEEPS the SKIN COOL and REFRESHED in the HOTTEST WEATHER, Removes and prevents all SUNBURN, REDNESS, FRECKLES, TAN, etc., and RENDERS the SKIN DELICATELY SOFT, SMOOTH and WHITE. It entirely prevents it from becoming DRY and WRINKLED, and PRESERVES the COMPLEXION from the scorching effects of the SUN and WIND more effectually than any other preparation. The IRRITATION caused by the BITES and STINGS of INSECTS is wonderfully allayed by its use. For imparting that soft velvety feeling to the skin, thus delightful preparation has no equal! Sold by all Chemists.

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TO CONTRACTORS.

1. Sealed Tenders will be received by the Superintendent up to 1st March 1888, for the supply of Cloth, Iron, Coal, Coke, Tin mgot, Wax bees, and other stores (more or less) to the Small Arms Ammunition Factory, Dum Dum, from the 1st April 1888 up to the 31st March 1889. The term "more" includes the supply of stores if required up to 25 per cent. in excess of the original tender.
2. Printed forms of tenders for the supply of stores for which tenders are invited, are obtainable from this office daily (Sundays and holidays excepted) on payment of Rupee 1 4.
3. Tenders should be accompanied by a deposit as earnest money in Bank of Bengal receipt calculated at the rate of (5) five per cent. on the stores tendered. This deposit will be returned on execution of the contract deed or rejection of the tenders.
4. Preference will be given to local manufacture.
5. Tenders will be opened at this office at 12 o'clock on the 2nd March 1888. Parties tendering are invited to attend.
6. Further particulars as to conditions of tender will be found in I. O. Form 103, which will be furnished with the tender form.

J. G. STONE, Major, R. A.,
Superintendent.

Small Arms Ammn. Factory Office,
Dum Dum, 31st January, 1888.

NOTICE.

The Registration of births and deaths under Act IV. (B. C.) of 1876 Chapter X having been transferred from the Inspectors of Police to the Ward Inspectors from the 1st February, and the Ward Inspectors having been appointed Registrars of births and deaths under Section 169 of that Act, all persons concerned are informed that, from and after the 1st of February 1888, applications for the registration of births and deaths should be made at the Offices of the Ward Inspectors of the Health Officer's Department instead of at the Police Thannahs as heretofore.

- Office—Ward No. 1—92 Grey Street.
" " 2—67-1 Nintola Ghat Street.
" " 3—92 Grey Street.
" " 4—195 Cornwallis Street.
" " 5—67-1 Nintola Ghat Street.
" " 6—195 Cornwallis Street.
" " 7—164 Lower Chitpore Road.
" " Nos. 8' and 9—2-1 College Street.
" " 10 and 11—40 Wellington Street.
" " No. 12—7 Mangoe Lane.
" " Nos. 13 and 14—21 Wellesley Street.
" " 15, 16 and 17—26 & 27 Circular Road.
" " No. 18—May Road, Hastings.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.
30th January 1888.

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| The Cleopatra Signet Bangle | 54 |
| The Magic Twist Bangle | 185 |
| The Flexible Curb Bangle | 115 |
| The Etruscan Ball Bangle | 32 |
| The Good Luck Bangle | 54 |
| The Oriental Onyx Bangle | 90 |
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| The Scotch Plaid Bangle | 80 |

The above are cash quotations.
Inspection Invited.

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No. 1. Re. 1; No. 2. Re. 1 (larger phial); ointment. As. 12.

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N. B.—See *Reis & Rayyet* of 26th February, March 1887, for full advertisement.

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A RARE SIGHT!

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To be followed by the late

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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
Behar and Orissa.)

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

Dr. S. C. Mookerjee, the editor of what is undoubtedly one of the ablest papers in the country in point of literary power is the author of a pleasant little book of Travels in East Bengal. The author is master of a easy style of English which many an Englishman may envy. Humorous descriptions and caustic satire enliven every page. There is throughout a vigour and freshness of style that lends a charm to the veriest commonplace. If there were, however, a higher purpose in the publication of this book than to lighten the weary evening hours of the ordinary reader, we confess to a feeling that the author has failed in such an object. We are afraid there is not poetry enough in us to body forth in imagination the beauty of the scenes which the author has described in his voyages to and fro between Dacca and Tipperah. Humourist as he is Dr. Mookerjee will remind us of the words of the poet that the point of a "jest lies more in the ear of him that hears it than in the tongue of him that utters it." As with the jest so is it with the description. We do not say that the charge is unfounded. Prosaic as we are, drudging away at the desk, perhaps it is that we lack capacity to follow in imagination what the author has doubtless delineated with an admirable pen.

One of the chief impressions that a reader will receive from a glance at the book is the somewhat strained relation between the Babus and the Anglo-Indians. The author pours a flood of ridicule upon the lordly airs of our "rulers." He hits hard indeed in his account of the Colonel at whist enduring a Babu looking on, when on board the steamer, and

of the whiteman's condescension in bowing to the black nigger. Happily we in the South are not so badly off in our commerce with the representatives of Western civilization. In spite of several instances of conflict and misunderstanding Englishmen and Hindus pull on agreeably together. But the author, notwithstanding his involuntary feeling of aloofness from the European, is no stranger to the blessings for which the West has laid us in debt. He has a keen appreciation of the enjoyments of this Westernized life of ours. He looks for ever forward and casts no longing lingering look behind at the things with which we have shaken hands and parted. His heart is in the continuance of British supremacy in the East. And agitation is his utmost weapon for the maintenance of his rights. But he will have nothing with spurious agitation. We extract below a paragraph of excellent advice to his brethren of the press. [Extract.]

The author recounts his adventure with the Railway officials of Sealdah with considerable humour. We feel an irresistible temptation to quote it *in extenso*, but space forbids. How the greenback was no legal tender, why silver of the Calcutta mint was wanted and how the currency question stood stiff and frowning despite the Editors and Magistrates who had accompanied the author to bid him good-bye at the station, and how again with the advent of the Justice of the Peace all objection to receiving the currency-note vanished, are all narrated in a style that is fittingly characterized only by the word "delightful." In another place the author introduces the reader to the Hindu belief in the auspicious hour for starting on a journey in language of such playful railery that we make no apology for quoting it. [Extract.]

The untoward circumstance of the day, the event to which we have already alluded namely the refusal of the Railway officials to receive the currency-note in payment of the fare, elicits the following humorous confession of human weakness. [Extract.]

The author has some trenchant criticism on the insolation of the Englishman, which makes him inaccessible to the complaints of extortion or plunder by their menials. They are too absorbed to know all that passes about them and the wrongs that are committed in their names are unnoticed as mere trifles for they have rarely any idea of their magnitude. It is only too well known throughout the country how blackmail in the shape of money or provisions is levied upon the inhabitants when the Collector is on tour. It would be difficult to believe the thing could go on under his very nose without his connivance if we did not know his exclusiveness and his distaste for mixing with the people.

The author devotes the greater part of the book to a description of the people and the external aspect of the country that he passed through in his two trips to Tipperah from Calcutta and back. He has a good deal to say about the customs of some of the people he becomes acquainted with. He makes a discovery of the debris of a Portuguese colony in Tipperah that has become debased in morality and sunk in superstition. Although there is not much in the book that is instructive to the serious student, the grace of diction and the ease of style carry the reader pleasantly through. It would be difficult to rescue such a subject as he has chosen from dulness without his extraordinary command of language. We cannot promise more than a brief span of life to the book. It will prove what is abundantly clear to the readers of the *Reis and Rayyet* that the author is an adept in English composition. He is a lover of nature and he paints scenes and situations with an artist's pencil.—*The Hindu*, November 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the

secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold. The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible. The author is impartial in his censures. There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; *the Career of an Indian Princess, Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand winking charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read: [Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described:—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when

he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

It may be well-known to all of our readers that Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee the veteran Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* newspaper, has just published a book describing the four voyages that he made between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah when he had to go and to return from the latter place in the capacity of the minister to its prince. The literature yet produced in the English tongue by our own countrymen is very scanty and any sensible addition to it cannot well escape the attention of the public press. Much greater therefore should be the attention claimed on behalf of a book which comes from the pen of so well-known a writer in the field of Indian journalism as Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee. That gentleman's career as a writer fills nearly the last thirty years, and there has hardly been any subject of public importance during that long period which has not occupied his attention. Master of an inimitable racy style, with a vast store of classical allusions ever ready at the call, and possessing an infinite fund of humour, our author often enlivens every thing that he touches, and his peculiar strength lies in description. We therefore welcome the appearance of this book more especially as the subject is one which to make it interesting, requires a lively colouring and a rich, picturesque and imaginative description. There exist several books of travels written by eminent Englishmen, and every one of these differs perhaps, in their conception and plan of execution. Of these none was more widely read in the course of the last few years than Carlyle's reminiscences of an Irish Journey in 1849. That book is made up of extracts from diaries and the worst features of it are the bitter and caustic personal remarks interspersed throughout the book. However that may suit the polished and fashionable taste of England, in our country it would have been singularly out of place and we are glad that Babu Sambhu Chunder has confined himself to the description of those natural sceneries he passed through, and the means of travel in the distant and little-known regions of East Bengal. That the rivers of Bengal, with their circuitous and entangling courses do enshrine in them a deep spirit of poetry and are of sincere interest to the real man of imagination, is proved by the fact that Sir William Hunter, than whom a more accomplished man of letters never passed the best years of his life in Bengal, should have chosen the subject for his very interesting address at Oxford, the other day. The gentle waves, the gentler ripples, the grassy banks, the ever-entwining courses, the pleasant air, the sceneries on both sides, make the rivers of Bengal a genuine thing of interest to those whose eyes are perpetually fed by the artificial gloss and dross of civilization and few could have set perhaps the loveliness of our rivers in better light than our accomplished author. His eloquent sentences, marching in regular order one after another, and embodying in their selves, every minute detail, that can lend to a scene its finest artistic effect, seem to place the reader in the very midst of sceneries described, and the man of leisure who would acquaint himself with the state of things in East Bengal, can hardly resort to a better book. The journeys which are described in this volume are certainly uneventful and though they correspond to facts as they furnish no interesting situation, no critical moments, to the seeker of intellectual excitement and this will no doubt constitute a serious objection to the book on the part of sensational seeking readers. None has however any thing to quarrel with the choice of a subject that any author may choose to write upon and none of the outside public can afford any explanation as to why the author should have preferred one subject to another. We think however there are one or two indications of bad taste. Still we welcome the appearance of this book and trust that it is but the first of a long series of works in writing which our author should spend the matured experience and the literary facility of a well-spent life.—*Young Bengal*, Feb. 2, 1888.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1888.

} No. 311

To——

Even as the flowers are, so art thou,
Bright and sweet and joyous,
Maiden of the sunny brow!

Even as the moon is, so art thou,
Fresh is the virgin dew
Upon thy golden brow.

Even as the stars are, so art thou,
The "poetry of heaven" is
Under thy arched brow.

Even as the soul is, so art thou,
And love and life and light
Are circled round thy brow.

Green bank of grass and maiden hair
Wound round a purling brook,
In summer, is 'passing fair.

Where roses climb half way
To trellised Jessamine
Soothing the sultry day;

And showered blooms of Vakul spread
Beneath, and yellow Champa,
Dear Spring's own bride! bed,

'Tis ever sweet; but sweeter thou
And fairer, aye, and rarer,
Maiden of the golden brow!

Do I love thee? Ask not again.
The stars above thee answer yes,
And the flowerful plain.

B.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WHO says that corporations have no conscience? The Bank of Bengal is generosity itself. It has undertaken payment of the Income Tax payable by the assistants, European and native.

Query: Is the additional payment on behalf of the subordinates subject to the tax? Under the Act such payment counts for income of the particular employé.

THE "Champion of Local Self-Government," Baboo Surendranath Banerjee, has been bearded in his own den. Major C. H. Scott, R. A., Superintendent of the Ichapore Gun Powder Factory, has been elected Chairman of the North-Barrackpore Municipality—Baboo Banerjee's native town. In the Southern Municipality, the old Chairman maintains his ground.

ASSAULTS on the Bench by suitors seem to be the order of the day. A Budmash has been sentenced to 2 years' labor by the Northern Division Magistrate for an attempt on the Calcutta Chief Magistrate. Baboo C. N. Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Howrah, had a narrow escape from a ruffian who has been sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment. In RaneeGUNGE, the Moonsiff, Baboo Kallydhone Chatterjee, had the same kind of dubious attention paid to him. A disappointed suitor wanted to injure the judge by throwing a stone at him. He was arrested and has since been thrown into prison for six months.

WE have heard of a disgraceful scene at a neighbouring school. The office of Assistant-Secretary to the School Committee lately fell vacant, and a Baboo in the Lieutenant Governor's office, was, on the presumption of his intellectual superiority, elected. He was not long in proving his superiority of some kind, albeit not intellectual. The Head Master came down upon a boy who used to run away from school without permission and pulled him by the ear. Thereupon, the new broom of an Assistant-Secretary swept away the Head Master clean out of the school, bag and baggage. Without consultation with his colleagues, of his own motion he ordered a menial attached to the school to drive the Head Master *vi et armis*.

LORD WILLIAM BERTSFORD, who had been to Lucknow, on short leave, to the Races, has returned and taken up his office. Major Cooper, A.-D.-C., who will be best remembered as Hon. Secretary to the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, acted also as Military Secretary to the Viceroy during the interval.

AT the Vienna High Court, in a case between one Fuchs and Prince Gustav Sayn Wittgenstein Berleburg, Fuchs deposed that at Baden-Baden, in one single evening, he lost 200,000 thalers, the Prince of Wales winning one-half.

THE Home Government has been recommended to sanction a deputy for the Financial Secretary to the India Government.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Truth says :—

"Sir Morell Mackenzie has just refused a nice little douceur of 30,000 dollars, which was offered to him if he would run across the 'millpond' to see one of the innumerable 'leading citizens' in the States. He, however, was unwilling to undertake a journey that would place him out of reach of his illustrious patient at San Remo, even for a short time. I may say, by the way, that 6,000*l.* is, probably, the biggest thing in the way of a single medical fee that has been heard of in our day. Sir Morell himself got a thousand guineas for going to Cannes to see Mr. Stirling Crawford, and Dr. Hahn had the same amount for coming from Berlin to Mr. Montagu Williams. Sir Henry Thompson received two thousand (of which he returned half) for his attentions to poor old 'Badinguet'; but these are 'unconsidered trifles' compared with the fee Sir Morell Mackenzie has declined."

Our fools in India are habitually more lavish of their ill-gotten or undeserved wealth. The poor young Maharaja Aftab Chand of Burdwan paid Rs. 25,000 to his doctor for being assured that he had recovered. Some heavy fees have been paid for European medical assistance procured from a distance. But scarcely has the English figure been even reached. It is in litigation that our people become liberal and stupid on a grand scale.

A GREAT loss is thus reported :—

"Two furniture vans were on Thursday afternoon, Jan. 26, proceeding through Cucklewood, filled with valuable oil paintings consigned to a firm in New Bond-street, and when near the Midland Railway arch crossing over the Edgware-road the second van was discovered to be on fire. All attempts to extinguish the flames were unavailing, and in an incredibly short time the whole of the contents of the van were destroyed, the frame-work of the vehicle alone being saved. The loss is estimated at some 30,000*l.*, one painting alone being worth 10,000*l.* The owner is stated to be a wealthy nobleman, and a great patron of art."

A *catalogue raisonné* of the lost worth ought to be soon published, or else the market may be flooded with spurious imitations.

THE *Advocate* says :—

"A friend, who was present at the meeting, before which Sir Syed Ahmad delivered his notorious speech, tells us that the Hon'ble Syed's remarks on Bengalis were so disgusting to certain Mohamaden gentlemen, that they left the meeting and told the speaker that they did not expect that their Hindu fellow-countrymen would be abused. We are told that the younger brother of Munshi Intiaz Ali, Pleader and President of the Educational Congress, also, consequently, left the meeting. This gentleman is better known as the author of 'Truth about Russia,' and now holds an executive appointment at Fyzabad. We refer to Munshi Mahfuz Ali."

Of late years, no writer has so vividly painted the life of lawlessness on the Mexican highways than M. Lucien Biart. The following seems almost an excerpt from *The Clients of Doctor Bernagius* :—

"Senora Amastoa Rubio de Pascadera, a woman bandit, was buried by the side of her lover at San Antonio, Zacatecas, Mexico, on Dec. 17. In early womanhood her intended husband was killed by Federal troops, and on his grave she swore vengeance. Her oath was to kill five men every year of her life, and she more than kept it. Her first exploit was to rob the Agas Calientes stage near Zacatecas. Single-handed she drove the postillions to flight, hailed the stage, and ordered a supposed band of assistants concealed in the chapparal not to shoot unless resistance was offered. The eight passengers gave a good booty. She continued a career of robbery for many years, which terrorised the citizens of Sinola, Jalisco, and Sonora, and enriched herself. The authorities and troops were powerless to suppress her. She bequeathed her fortune to charities, dying a natural death in obscurity."

We commend the above to the notice of the collector of the records of female heroism in *Notes and Queries*.

The difficulties under which European *savants* study the East, usually from home, are simply staggering. A Frenchman is about to pave the path of scholars by the establishment of an Oriental Museum in his native country :—

"M. Emile Guimet, a native of Lyons, after a mission to India, China, and Japan, where he made large collections, built and endowed in his native city a large museum, which was opened by a Congress of French Orientalists in 1878. It contains a library of books and manuscripts in Sanskrit, Tamil, Sinhalese, Tibetan, Siamese, Chinese, Japanese, etc., treating specially of religions; and all the gods of India, China, Japan, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. There are also native professors of different creeds attached who explain the different mythologies and the illustrative objects. The aim of M. Guimet in founding the museum was 'to facilitate researches of scholars and extend the taste for Oriental studies and the religions of the East.' Subsequently, it was resolved to remove the museum to the French capital. Great progress is now being made with the building of the museum near the Trocadero Palace, in Paris, for the exhibition of this magnificent collection. The total cost of the building—a Greco-Roman edifice—is estimated at about £40,000, a third of which will be provided by the Ministry of Public Instruction, and the remainder by M. Guimet himself who has also taken upon himself the expense of moving the collection to Paris, which of itself is estimated at nearly £3,000. In one wing of the museum will be the Japanese Olympus,

the Egyptian divinities, and collections of Japanese porcelain, while the galleries which face the Avenue d'Iena will contain the divinities of China, India, Greece, Italy, and Gaul. In another wing not yet built will be exhibited the divinities of Africa, Oceania, &c., while in another part of the building will be studies for the use of the persons employed to translate Indian, Chinese, and Japanese manuscripts. The museum will, it is hoped, be opened in the early part of 1888."

Still harping on old Greece and Rome! Where on earth is the propriety of a Greco-Roman edifice in the connection? An Indo-Chinese, or, say, a Chino-Indian building would be more to the purpose.

THE following comes from Lahore :—

"A dangerous and exciting occurrence—a hand-to-hand combat with a baboon—took place last Saturday night near the Lahore Central Jail. A European warder, named Austin, was aroused at a late hour by knocks at his door, and, thinking there were thieves, he went out of the room stealthily to secure them by a detour. On finding nobody, and returning, he saw a large sized baboon seated on a round table, where the lamp was burning, warming himself by its flame. Before he could retire, the animal saw and followed him, and assailed him with ferocity, tearing and biting at him. Unable to extricate himself, and seeing no escape, Austin had to face his assailant, and a desperate struggle ensued; the man eventually succeeding in killing the monkey. The baboon belonged to the contractor of the Jail, Nehal Chand. Austin has been badly wounded, and is said to be in a precarious state."

We shall not be surprised to hear that the monkey had had an old grudge against poor Austin. We have witnessed a most extraordinary case of well-merited chastisement by one of our monkeys on our own valet.

A MEHTER, Kuroop, has been placed before the Chief Magistrate to answer for the death of Mr. Donald Mackinnon of Mackinnon Mackenzie. Mr. Mackinnon died of typhoid fever at No. 6, Government Place. The Police subsequently discovered that Kuroop, who was employed by the deceased, "to save himself the trouble of going to the latrine belowstairs, was in the habit of carrying the nightsoil to the roof of the building and there emptying it into an open ordinary water spout which led to a surface drain belowstairs." On this statement of Superintendent Johnstone of the Detective Department, the Magistrate remarked that "if there is any charge against the man, I suppose it will be for doing a rash and negligent act so as to endanger human life." The attending physician, Dr. William Coulter, who examined the house and discovered the cause of the disease, has been examined by the Magistrate. His deposition runs thus :—

"I made an examination of the premises on Monday week last before Mr. Mackinnon's death. I went up the wooden stairs to the roof of the house. I found a heap of fecal matter and paper up there close to the mouth of the pipe running down the north side, and two vessels with water in them, one was an earthen vessel and the other a jug. There was also a piece of dirty rag there. In the mouth of this open pipe, I saw one or two pieces of dirty paper. There was fecal matter sufficient to fill two baskets, two feet in diameter and six inches high. The fecal matter smelt very badly and strongly. I kicked it up and had to run away from the smell. I could not give you the age of this heap of fecal matter; it was resting on the roof. I did not see any fecal matter in the pipe. I mentioned this to Dr. Anderson, and asked him to come up and see it; he did not go up. I made this examination as soon as I discovered that Mr. Mackinnon's disease was typhoid about a week after I was called in to see him. I can form no idea as to how long the heap had been there. The only way I can account for the poison going into the house is that the gas must have rushed down the pipe and thus got into the house; or it may have been due to percolation, if there were any cracks in the roof. If there was a current of air running downwards, it would carry the gas with it. I made no other representation except to Dr. Anderson. I did not go downstairs and look at the outlet of the pipe. The gas having been carried down the pipe would rise again and get into the house. In that case others would also suffer. As a matter of fact, two men were attacked. There is one man now ill; he is also suffering from typhoid fever. I did not see the servants' latrine. Taking it that there is a latrine below Mr. Mackinnon's bed-room, giving out the effluvia spoken to by the last witness, the source of danger may have come from that. And if it be true that a pipe leads from this latrine into his bath room, the danger would be intensified. So far as I can speak, the germs of typhoid come most often from decomposing fecal matter."

The case will be resumed next Monday. The mehter has been enlarged on bail of Rs. 50.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Rheumatism and Gout.—These purifying and soothing remedies deserve the earnest attention of all persons liable to gout, sciatica, or other painful affections of the muscles, nerves, or joints. The Ointment should be applied after the affected parts have been patiently fomented with warm water, when the Ointment should be diligently rubbed upon the adjacent skin, unless the friction causes pain. Holloway's Pills should be simultaneously taken to diminish pain, reduce inflammation, and purify the blood. This treatment abates the violence, and lessens the frequency of gout, rheumatism, and all spasmodic diseases which spring from hereditary predisposition, or from any accidental weakness of constitution. The Ointment checks the local malady, while the Pills restore vital power.

SIR PASUPATI ANANDA GAJAPATI RAY, K. C. I. E., Maharaja of Vizianagram, has been Gazetted an Additional Member of the Council of the Governor-General for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations, with effect from the 15th February, 1888.

A LAND acquisition case is thus reported by the new Lucknow paper :

"It appears that the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway Company took six acres of valuable land at Byram Ghat, the timber emporium on the Ghagra, belonging to Raja Sarajit Singh of Ramnuggur in the Bara-Banki district. The Deputy Commissioner offered Rs. 16,100, price and compensation, while the Raja claimed Rs. 115,000. The nett annual income of the land was Rs. 1,400. A reference was made to the District Judge of Lucknow, who decided that Rs. 50,566 should be paid to the Raja. The Government considered the above amount as exorbitant and unreasonable, and offered to return the land to the Raja—which he refused. An appeal was preferred to the Judicial Commissioner, who reduced the amount to Rs. 29,440, valuing the land at 16 years' purchase, together with compensation for compulsory acquisition and some trifling damages to the Raja."

SEVENTY rate-payers of the town and Suburbs met together in the rooms of the British Indian Association, on Wednesday last, to consider the Municipal Bill now passing through the local Council. They had nothing to discuss, and only hoped that the report of the Select Committee would be published before being taken up in Council, and regretted that the Council paid no heed to the recommendations of the B. I. A. on the passed portion of the Bill. They further resolved to send a copy of their resolutions to the Legislative Council and to form a Committee to watch the progress of the Bill.

HERE is a picture of student life in the Czar's dominions as told by one of the students :—

"Watched and worried as if they were the inmates of a reformatory or a house of correction, chided and punished for every infraction of the rules, which extend to their dress, the cut of their hair, the choice of companions, the students are kept in a state of incipient rebellion, which leads to frequent outbreaks of 'disorder and insubordination.'"

In justice to the Government it ought to be remembered that the students on the Continent are the most impudent imps in Creation. They would in five minutes give a good account of the Ramsays and other Police officers, who at Krishnagur and Dacca behaved so harshly towards the Bengali lads. The Vienna students attacked the War Office and hanged the War Minister before it.

THROUGH the *Bangalore Examiner*, a gentleman of correct principles draws attention to an important subject. He has been shocked at the licentiousness of the local bulls and cows. These have so little respect for public decency, that they do not mind practising the multiplication table in sight of passers-by. The writer asks, Is there no Municipal Regulation to prevent cattle-breeding being carried on in the public streets? Certainly, there ought to be one. But we doubt whether such a Regulation will meet the whole evil, and hence is it that we have called it an important subject. Surely, our bovine friends are not the only offenders in the line. What of our canine and our feline companions? And where is the machinery to prevent the bow-wowling Pariahs from insulting you in your face? These paupers of the race almost justify the severity of the British who, wherever they go, exterminate them. We wonder what the Franks do in Turkey, which abounds in gaunt homeless brutes prowling about the thoroughfares. If they shut their eyes, they must open them but rarely.

WE are glad to see our last week's remarks on the silk of Burma attracting notice of our countrymen. We cordially welcome the following letter :—

SIR,—In your last issue you have made a few remarks, concerning the indigenous silk products of Burmah. Have you never seen the Assamese silks? There are many sorts of them; and it is no exaggeration to say that one of them (Môgá) at least, will equal the best European products, in colour and fineness, while it has not a single rival in respect of durability. Considering the antique and imperfect method and the rude implements with which they work, it is really a wonder how the Assamese villagers produce such fine cloths. Besides Môgá they have Pát which is finer and richer than Môgá although a little less durable (for a Môgá will last at least for 10 years in any farm). A single ârcá cloth (made of the flos. of Môgá) which is used as blankets will stand the foulest weather and keep one warm even in the rigorous winter of Assam. Costing only about one half of what we pay for a pair of European blankets it will last considerably longer. Even

the Môgá and the Pát is far cheaper than the Chinese and other exported silks. I need not mention the good qualities of the silk. What I mean to say is Assamese silk is as good for export as the Burmese silk and perhaps better and it also wants all the improvements a rude manufacture is in need of. You have given hopes of a good market 'nearer home' for the Burmese silk. Perhaps you may do so as well for the Assamese one. If you have not seen the Assamese silks I shall be extremely happy to show you some of my own use though they are not the best specimen.

AN ASSAMESE.

The 14th February 1888.

We shall be glad to receive a visit from our correspondent.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

SIR CHARLES TURNER replaces in the India Council Sir Henry Sumner Maine removed by death. An unexceptionable appointment. And a compensation for the last disappointment. The former Judge of the N. W. P. High Court will be a standing antidote to the late L.T. Governor of Upper India. In these days of the Reign of Law, the presence of a good unclotchetty lawyer at the fountain-head of Government is invaluable.

THE Petroleum Bill has been passed by the Supreme Legislative Council. It was originally proposed to levy an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent., but in deference to the wishes of the mercantile community, power has been taken to levy a fixed duty. The rate is 6 pies per imperial gallon, which is about 3 per cent. more, and will yield an additional revenue of 10 lacs, or $3\frac{1}{2}$ more than the original estimate.

At the last sitting of the Council, the Hon'ble Mr. Westland obtained leave to introduce and introduced a Bill to prohibit the making or issue by private persons of pieces of metal for use as money and the making of coins in resemblance or similitude of coins of Foreign States. The Finance Minister explained that it was not meant to introduce a crusade against what are ordinarily known as "dummy" pice, but to prevent private persons from making or issuing them. Mr. Westland declares that manufacturers of these coins cannot be reached by the Penal Code, for counterfeiting Queen's coin, for coin has been defined as "metal used for the time being as money, and stamped and issued by the authority of some State or Sovereign Power in order to be so used." But, says he, "it is possible that such coinage may come within some other section of the Penal Code." He, however, does not stop to examine the other sections of the Code, and jumps to the conclusion that "it is assuredly proper for the Government to take up this matter directly, and to define the making of these pice as what, to all intents and purposes, is a fraudulent fabrication of coin." Mr. Westland is presumably a good arithmetician, and there are Baboos enough in his office who are accountants. He has yet to prove himself a financier. Meanwhile, he does not show the stuff of a legislator. It is only in India that such language could ever be held in a Parliament. It is an insult to the community. It would be considered indecent at a vestry to support a proposition for a gratuity to a beadle.

At their sitting on Saturday week, the Bengal Council made no alteration in the Municipal Bill as recommended by the Select Committee. There were many amendments, but all were lost. There was one notable exception, and that was saved in a notable way. The Select Committee had conferred the franchise on the members of the University—Fellows and graduates. Our Member for the University was opposed to so revolutionary an exaltation of education. After that poor Saraswati was disfranchised by the casting vote of the President.

THE Home Government is not prepared to sanction a Bench of the High Court for Oudh. The existing Acts give no authority for the step and it is not the time to apply to Parliament for fresh legislation. There is no hope of Parliament attending to India so long as the Irish question is not settled one way or another. We have repeatedly said so, notably in supporting the petition of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the revival of the Budget debate.

THE Board of Revenue, L. P., have not been deaf to the outcry against the outstill. They have had the candour to recognise the value of the suggestions made by Mr. Edgar's Commission. Accordingly, before any definite change of policy is promulgated by the head of

the Administration, it has been decided, from the commencement of the official year in April next, to limit the production and to fix the minimum selling price.

SOME of the Divisional Commissioners have reported against the Competition-wallahs of the Subordinate Judicial Service. They recommend the other system or a mixed one of Nomination and Competition. The present rage, however, is for open competition, and the Local Government seems in no hurry to pass orders on the subject.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* says:—

"The Maharajah Gaikwar of Baroda, before leaving Paris, paid the price agreed upon for his apartments, £240. The landlord demanded £1,120 for damages. The Prince refused to pay, but offered to deposit the sum in a bank or elsewhere, until the matter could be arranged. The landlord refused, and attempted to seize the Prince's baggage at the railway station. The railway authorities refused to allow this without a judge's order. This the landlord obtained, but for £800. A telegram was immediately sent, and the special train conveying the Maharajah and suite was ordered to be stopped at Belfort, and all the baggage seized unless £800 were deposited. The Prince will make a complaint in the proper quarter respecting this arbitrary procedure. The claim of £1,120 was simply an attempt at extortion by the proprietor of the house occupied by the Maharaja when in Paris *en route* for London for the Queen's Jubilee. The sum at first demanded for repairs was £48 but when the landlord discovered his tenant to be a wealthy prince he increased the claim to £1,120. The Prince had paid £240 for one month's rent."

We almost think those Indian Princes served rightly who frivolously leave their country, to waste abroad the taxes paid, with the sweat of their brow and their blood, by their poor subjects or tenantry. Why should they, without sufficient cause, put themselves in the power of these unconscionable harpies? The extortion of the Paisian traders is notorious. They served the late Nawab Nazim in the same way. A tailor charged a fabulous price for a coat, and pursued him to London to recover it.

THE New Loyalty has been reduced to an absurdity, by a wag or a simpleton, we are not sure which. The offers for frontier defences, commenced by the Nizam at 60 lacs, have filtrated down deep. And now the ridiculous has been reached. One Bhagat Sib Ram of Jullundur has come forward with his loyalty tribute of Rs. 5. The contribution may be a trifle, but the loyalty is genuine, beyond question. Nor is a State that taxes the salt of the people and poisons its subjects at home and those of its allies abroad, in order to raise a revenue, entitled to despise the pence of the poor. We wonder whether the Viceroy will himself acknowledge the offering of the inimitative Bhagat of Jullundur. Or, will the duty be delegated to one of the messengers in Sir Donald Wallace's office. The constable of the beat might do, without sacrifice of proportion, but then who will protect the Bhagat from the Police and their peculiar practices?

THE local Government has reduced the sentence of transportation for life on Sadhu Sahu for murder of his wife, to five years' hard labor. The circumstances under which the deed was committed justified the intervention, but surely the Crown should have interfered to better purpose or not interfered at all. The ravished wife is dead and gone. The husband, who murdered her to escape further ignominy, must rot in jail. But what of the ravisher? He slipped through the meshes of the law, and now is as free as a bird. That could not, and cannot, be helped, of course. It would have been more agreeable to native sentiment, had the sentence on Sadhu been committed to simple imprisonment, considering that five years' hard labor, amounts usually to death by slow torture. But native feeling is confessedly weak in such matters, and it is a grave responsibility to do aught that might lessen the popular respect for the law. We are grateful to the Lt.-Governor for the promptitude with which he exerted himself to save the victim of a relentless Code. As soon as he received the Cuttack petition, before the Press had spoken a word, he at once put himself in communication with the High Court and with the other authorities concerned.

We have only to ask Government to keep an eye on the unspeakable Ooryah Zemindar.

THE recent measures of Government for making both ends meet, have drawn a good deal of sharp criticism throughout the country. The Bombay press, as befits the organ of a commercial community, has taken

the lead in the opposition. All the Western native papers have written strongly against the fiscal policy of the Administration, and specially condemned the illiberal want of confidence in the people shown, and denounced the Salt Tax. *Native Opinion*, in particular, has expressed itself in a pithy but weighty article. Our contemporary, like the rest of the native press, harps on the reimposition of the Import Duties on Cottons as a proper alternative to the added impost on Salt. The writer reminds the Government—

"Those duties were taken away in times of financial prosperity. But when the times changed and our finances fell into a very gloomy condition as at present those duties ought to have been the first to have been resorted to. Even Lord Salisbury while he was urging upon the Government of India the abolition of cotton duties in 1875 said that 'the duty should be removed whenever the conditions of your revenues shall enable you to part with it,' and also that in deciding upon the mode in which it should be done 'the paramount importance of guarding the Indian Treasury from financial embarrassment must be borne in mind.' He never meant that the duties were to be abolished at all events, but he only meant to say that whenever the Indian finances permitted it their abolition ought to be accomplished. In recording a minute on the dissents of Sir E. Perry and Sir H. Montgomery he insisted further upon this principle and said that he objected to the action of the then Government of India only because having had money available for the reduction of import duties they did not do so, and he further was careful to explain that he never suggested fresh taxation as an alternative. But that is exactly what the Government of India have now done. They have practically imposed a fresh tax in order to justify the abolition of the import duties. The salt duty was reduced and import duties abolished in good times, but the question was as to which should they have had a resort to first, in bad times!"

He goes on—

"And we do not think that there could be two opinions as to the desirability of going to the import duties. That they are not protective is we think proved beyond doubt, and it would have been certainly more honest to have imposed them. Further the increase in the salt duty does not afford the whole relief that we want. It still leaves us under the necessity of finding out other sources while the imposition of import duties should have given us about £8000,000 at once and that without injuring any body whatever."

The Hon'ble Raja Peary Mohan Mookerjee has been universally censured for declaring from his place in Council, that the imposition of the Salt tax has given general satisfaction to the people. But the Raja has already earned his reward in the praises of His Excellency the Viceroy.

We fear the Salt Tax has been a great mistake. An addition to the Income Tax would, no doubt, have been vigorously assailed, and by many of those who now denounce the present measure. But there would have been courage and generosity in the act.

ON the 16th December last, in the Queen's Bench, Mr. Justice Day corrected a counsel who made an application to his lordship to adjourn a case until after the "luncheon time" of the court, on the ground that the plaintiff had telegraphed that he had missed his train. The proper language, as the Judge pointed out, was "after the adjournment," as "the Court does not lunch." This seems hair-splitting, but hairs are no trifle in a system in which the Judges and advocates perform their duties under ugly disguises, burdening themselves with heavy wigs.

The incident ought to make our lawyers in this country careful in their speech and conversation in Court. A Government pleader once pathetically complained to the Court of being repeatedly *bullied* by it. What do you say? thundered Mr. Justice Louis Jackson. In the end, however, the pleader was pardoned when it appeared that he did not know the force and use of the word. This kind of ignorance is far too common, and not by any means confined to our pleaders. The most irritating slips are made even by speakers and writers who ought to know, and who think they know, better.

INFORMATION was last week received from Teheran of the death, at the end of December, of Mahomed Khan, lately Governor-General of Khorassan, and formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs in Persia. He will be remembered as at one time the popular Persian Minister in London. A liberal statesman, he initiated several reforms and supported all measures for the good of his country and countrymen. He had none of the prejudices of Shiah bigots against the Frank or the Nazarene. He lived in friendly intercourse with all Europeans, but his partiality to the British was too pronounced and well-known to make him a *persona grata* with the other Powers and peoples. He was regarded in certain quarters as little short of a creature of our Government.

THE Chief Magistrate, after a long and patient enquiry, has come to the conclusion that "phooka" is a cruel process. Notwithstanding the revelation of Gabriel—not the angel, of course, but the surgeon—he has no hesitation in the matter. He emphasises his displeasure at the practice of milkmen by ordering the full penalty. We give the judgment elsewhere. It is a triumph of the higher civilisation. Men of every nationality and creed—Hindus, Mussulmans, Parsees, Jains, Christians—who are interested in protecting our dumb fellow-creatures from insult, oppression and outrage, and in preserving their own children from demoralization, will rejoice at the result.

THE discovery of the now famous Kola nut is as curious a history as the Peruvian bark itself. It was introduced to the West Indies, Mexico, Brazil, and other places, by the slave-dealers, who had it from the Africans, and was wont to administer it to their slaves, by way of a cure for suicidal mania to which they were driven by harsh treatment and the horrors of the Middle Passage. In Africa, we believe, it is esteemed as a delightful stimulant. It ought to be physiologically tested. We do not know if it is procurable here. Perhaps Dr. King might tell.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1888.

THE VICEROY'S RESIGNATION.

THE resignation of the Viceroy is the topic of the day. It is the occasion also for judgment on His Excellency and his administration. Europeans are thankful for the proof that Lord Ripon left these shores with all his wardrobe, including mantle and small clothes and all. For the very reason, our countrymen are proportionately disappointed. They are so little used to petting from high latitudes, that they are prepared to be content with the maximum of good words, even though accompanied by the minimum of performance. In general, they now prefer to rest their hopes in the future, to making themselves unhappy over the past. The Irreconcilables form the exception. In the same breath, they impeach the past and demand guarantees for the future. They are piling up the agony on the head of the Governor-General, till Lord Dufferin is reduced to the pass of Warren Hastings, when for half an hour he regarded himself as the greatest villain in Creation.

One well-known journal, towards the close of a long article, fires up—"We hold Lord Dufferin primarily responsible for the breach between the Hindus and Mahomedans." That is news indeed! Whoever before suspected it? That many Anglo-Indians are ready to divide class against class, we have reason to believe. But this is the first time we hear that the Viceroy was "primarily responsible" for the breach between the two sects. Indeed, we were assured from the same quarter that there had been no breach at all, that the appearance of it of last year had been repaired by the Mahomedans attending in force at the late Congress, and cordially participating in the proceedings, and by the fact of the leading Mahomedan of Bombay presiding on the occasion. But the writer follows up with something more specific. "The ill-conceived speech of Sir Syed Ahmad, recently delivered at Lucknow, is a striking instance of Lord Dufferin's policy." How? it is not explained. We scarcely remember so capital a *non sequitur*. The alleged genesis of the Goodwin Sands pales before this inference. Fortunately for the peace of the ruler of India, the bathos which immediately follows, may afford him a crumb of

comfort. "Lord Dufferin has, we regret to say, done little good to the people of this country." So the formidable indictment for high crimes and misdemeanours collapses in a feeble negative complaint. The writer evidently felt his weakness, and there is a slight convulsive attempt at putting a grim face on the matter. "He [the Viceroy] has added more to their [the people's] miseries than to their happiness." The whole agony is brought to a close in this note of interrogation:—

"How can we, then, sympathise with His Lordship's administration?"

Whoever expected you to do so? But, surely, it is expected of public writers that they should not, in quiet times, needlessly embitter the discussion of public topics, nor exasperate political opponents. There is a time for anger, we grant, but is this the season? Indignation is one of the noblest passions of poor human nature—it is worthy of the gods themselves. Hebrew Inspiration claims it for the Almighty Himself. But there ought to be no mistake about the occasion. It ought not to be held cheap, nor made a substitute for every whiff of discontent or difference. Least of all, should it be manufactured and kept ready for use. Grave charges should not be idly preferred. If we of the meaner sort have our rights to which we cling religiously, surely our betters have not been left the sport of wind and wave of their neighbours' passion. However numerous his offences, whatever the enormity of his transgressions, the Earl of Dufferin has not yet been definitively adjudged an outlaw. The poor Viceroy of India is entitled to some protection from causeless attacks and incoherent reproaches and frivolous annoyances. In the interest of the Empire, he ought to be protected. Nor ought the task be left to the British in India. The Natives, who are constantly demanding justice, ought to show the example of it themselves—let loyalty alone. Having never been among the admirers of the Administration, we are the better able, without loss of self-respect, to perform the duty.

THE EUROPEAN PRESS, INSULAR AND CONTINENTAL. KATKOFF AND BLAQUE.

IN the beginning of last year, the new magazine called *Concord* appeared with a brief article, from the pen of Baboo Sambhu C. Mookerjee, on justice to journalists. The writer noticed the self-depreciation and neglect of the conductors of the Press, and seemed to attribute to it, in a great measure, that striking contrast between the importance of the Press in England and the insignificance of the men of the Press. This anomaly, however, he pointed out, was confined to Great Britain. On the Continent, journalists have no impracticable modesty, and labour under no social or political disability. The plan or, at any rate, the proportions of the paper—an old manuscript of jottings exhumed from an old drawer with additions here and there in course of passing through the press—precluded any extensive illustration. The main proposition was, however, considered safe. Nevertheless, it was assailed in some quarters, and an attempt made to quote that poor driveller Alison's History against it.

Be that as it may, contemporary history has since gone far to strengthen the position held in *Concord*. It is a remarkable fact that the conductors of fettered journalism are more regarded than the leaders of the largest and still absolutely free journalism in Europe. Fettered round by restrictions, borne down by disabilities, the press on the Continent has perhaps always commanded greater influence than the same institution in Great Britain, while its members have occupied a superior position in society and held a passport to active political life. In France and in Italy, in Germany and in Hungary, and even in backward Spain, the great journalists are now, as ever, among the leading politicians and party chiefs. In the

last named country, the greatest master of oratory is singularly enough the most trenchant "leader" writer. In France, from the Great Revolution, the press has played a prominent part in the sensational drama of affairs, and editors have not only been tribunes but also Presidents. M. Sidi Carnot, the present ruler, will doubtless, on enquiry, be found to have been connected with the press. M. Grevy's mentor was certainly a journalist, and it was under Mons. H. Maret's advice that the late President first seriously decided to resign.

The most striking illustration of not only the importance of the Press but the influence and power of its conductors in the heart of Continental absolutism, has been furnished, during the year just closed, by despotic Russia. The politics of that great Empire was found to centre in what in England would derisively be called a "gentleman of the press." The *primum mobile* of the vast organization was not among arch-dukes, or nobles or Generals, or ministers. It was not a landlord or capitalist. It was neither the cabinet nor the Senate,—no, not a syndicate or junto of any kind. It was not the Archbishop of Moscow nor the Patriarch of Constantinople. It was not even the holy Czar of all the Russias and earthly disposer of all the Russians himself. These are all mighty in their ways and all but all-important. A mysterious power lay behind them all. A simple literary man, without office or rank or fortune or decorations, held in his single hand the strings of the wondrous mechanism, to set in motion by one pull the vast forces. That man was M. Katkoff, the editor of the *Moscow Gazette*. After the death of Skobeloff, he became the leading figure in Russian politics, of commanding influence at home, and necessarily watched with interest, perchance anxiety, abroad. He was greater than his prototype. If Skobeloff was the darling hero of Russian ambition, Katkoff was the more powerful politician. If Skobeloff fired the military ambition of his countrymen and alarmed other nations by his elaborate business-like dreams, Katkoff wielded a farther-reaching influence on affairs at home. If the military knight was the more fascinating personality, the *litterateur* was the weightier man.

Marshalls and Ministers were dwarfed in his presence, for the Czar deferred to him, and the Czar deferred because he found it his interest to do so. It was no freak of imperial favoritism. That journalist might turn the empire against the Czar, and the Czar had had his troubles enough already, with the Eastern Question unsettled and the Far Eastern Questions settled for the time against him, and, worst of all, the grim spectre of Nihilism pursuing him as his own shadow. The Czar was no fool to quarrel with such a man, at the risk of multiplying his difficulties and dangers. Like a wise prince, he sought counsel of the man, who, above the passions of office, could advise him better than any ministry—the only man he knew who, cherishing all the patriotic dreams of Russia, possessed the sobriety and ballast of a statesman.

Katkoff's fame was of a brief span. The same twelve-month buried him with high honors at Moscow that first sounded his name throughout the globe. This vision of a strange career in the history of the Press rose like a glorious meteor, soon to disappear. It is a proof at once of the importance of the press and of the rare personality of the man, that, although the Czar himself has been at the pains to search for a successor, none could be found, so that his Majesty has appointed a commission of several to conduct the newspaper. This high dignity of the press is not by any means confined to Russia. As we have before observed, it is the same in many countries—generally on the Continent; though, of course, such grand editors as Katkoff are rare birds. Perhaps, they do not thrive in free countries. Rochefort and Greele and de Cassagnac are pigmies before the imperial Katkoff. The nearest analogue to the latter that we remember, was Blaque, an editor in Constantinople, and it is in Turkey, a generation or two back, that journalism found its *beldest*.

Let us quote a former traveller:—

"The person for whom I had a letter was Monsieur Blaque, the editor of the *Monteur Ottoman*, the only newspaper published at Constantinople, and for whom the Sultan had allotted a palace. I found him a most highly educated man, possessing much information, and the most gentlemanly manners; his conversation far superior to that of any individual I had met with in Turkey, his hospitality keeping pace with his other good qualities, and it was with much regret I heard of his death some time since. It appeared a grand in-

novation, the idea of having a newspaper in such a country as Turkey; but I am confident in stating it was placed under great restrictions, as M. Blaque begged I would not judge of himself after his paper.

Some have ascribed the death of M. Blaque to poison, administered at the instigation of the Russians, on account of their suspecting him, from the tone of his writings, to have been gained over to the English interest, by the all attractive power, which, as foreigners pretend, has swayed the world. *British gold*, need I state is that charm, which has, indeed, from its force, either directly or indirectly dissolved kingdoms, and annihilated even a powerful empire, as who but England furnished that *nerve* of war to Russia, Austria, and Prussia, in the late protracted struggle? That M. Blaque perished through the agency of Russia, I do not believe: that her policy is artful and subtle, I readily admit; but direct crimes, attacking the lives of individuals, have never been *proved* against the Russian government, although much has been asserted on the subject.

That the Muscovites looked upon M. Blaque with a very jealous eye there can be little doubt, as that gentleman's influence with the Turkish Government did not proceed alone from his paper, but from his close intimacy with the Seraskier, from whom, as being the most powerful man in the Ottoman empire, emanate every important change or improvement which takes place in the administration of affairs in Turkey."—*A Residence in Greece and Turkey*, &c. By Francis Hervey, Esq., Vol. II. pp. 60-61.

ROY'S MIDWIFE'S VADE-MECUM.*

THIS is, in one and that a high sense, perhaps the most important work of the vernacular press issued during the last twelve-month. For great as is and has been, during the period, the activity of that press, many as have been the publications annually registered, the result is feeble and disappointing in the extreme. The higher activity of the native mind is represented by scarcely half a dozen Sanskrit and English books. Vernacular literature is naturally more productive, but to little purpose. Of noise there is no lack, but the wool yielded is infinitesimal. The number of publications recorded is out of all proportion to quantity of the letter-press. Flimsy in character as insignificant in volume, most of them are small pamphlets rather than books. Schoolbooks form a legion, and they sell well, as they are made to. A few painstaking professional works and a fewer efforts of taste and imagination, and one or two of controversial skill and learning complete the respectable fraction. Of originality or research resulting in contributions of any pretensions, there is vastly little evidence.

Accordingly, we give Baboo Haranath Roy's book a cordial welcome. The author is obviously a man of mark. He is a medical practitioner of many years' standing and of wide experience in many parts of Lower Bengal and Upper India, and familiar with more than one system of treatment. Nor is he altogether unknown to the professional literary world. He is the author of some slight *brochures*—notably one in English on the treatment of Croup—and has been a contributor to several medical societies and journals, English and Bengali, in this country and to some in Europe. The appearance of the *magnum opus* of such a man must always and everywhere be an interesting event. In our country, with its prevailing literary dearth, reaching absolute famine, in works of tolerable pretensions, it is a circumstance for exceptional gratulation. The author himself is not a man to hide his light under a bushel. Without resorting to sensationalism, or stooping to any illegitimate arts, he deliberately claims attention. His title page is a challenge, and his whole tone that of a master, or at any rate of a passed student, in the best sense. That will irritate many, perhaps, and give offence to some, and may be used by professional rivals to his discredit. The Sanskrit verse adopted by the author as motto, is, no doubt, needlessly offensive. For all that, we confess, we enjoy the spectacle. Indeed, to us Hindus it comes naturally from a Hindu writer and a Brahman into the bargain. In these days of indecision, mock modesty, complimentary insincerity, and nervous dread of criticism, it is refreshing to see a new author (for new Baboo Haranath is for all his fugitive occasional appearance in journals many of which have ceased to be) with something of the self-assertion of the old Sanskrit Pandits. Nor is this necessarily a bad sign. Except in absolute fools, it is more often a symptom of power rather than of weakness. It is usually the expression of genuine painstaking. In such cases, what is the harm? Regarded even in the light of taste, it is a venal fault. In practice, there is an obvious advantage in the spirit. There is no surer way of forcing public attention. You may dislike the man ever so much for his vanity, you

* *Midwife's Vade-Mecum*. Dhatri Siksha Sangraha, ba Garbha-chikitsa vicaye panchavinshti batsarer pariksha o adhyayner phala &c., (or the Results of Twenty-five years' study and experiment.) By Haranath Roy, L. M. S. Calcutta, 1887.

cannot help listening to the author. That self-esteem indeed is not mere vanity which is built on solid worth. Perhaps, it is not always a respectable sentiment which leads us to take fire at the slightest appearance of a man claiming his due respect. We plead for no mercy to imposters, but there may be public loss from punishing honest workers for a natural and legitimate pride in their performances. If a man has expended twenty five years' labour and thought for our benefit as well as his own joy and glory, it is but fair to let him say so. If he proclaims it like a sandwichman, on his title and cover, that is his business. Ours is only the advantage—we know what to expect. He has got to make good his claim. If the outcome of so much exertion is inadequate, so much the worse for him!

Baboo Haranath fully sustains his title. The preface keeps up the strain of the title-page, but high as are his pretensions, his book does not belie them. At the end of the preface is given a list of the principal works consulted. It is a formidable catalogue for this country, where, in the absence of a great national collection or even a well-stocked professional library, books are difficult to procure. It includes all the best and latest treatises, memoirs and monographs on or bearing on midwifery and cognate researches. The book precludes the possibility of its motto being fairly retorted upon its writer. He has evidently profited by his fine library. The book is not a translation of any single work nor a translation from several, but it embraces all the truths discovered in the West, and all the experiences gathered in the two prominent schools of medical practice, and all the ideas and suggestions of the best writers. Withal, it is an original book, and herein is one of its chief claims to distinction. It embodies not only the fruits of extensive professional reading and reflection, but also the results of long years of independent observation. Traces of hospital as well as out-door practice may be discerned in the treatment of many of the difficult subjects treated. The bare scientific foundation of the structure—the theory of obstetrics—has been drawn from the teaching of his Western masters. Not so in the practical part—in midwifery proper, if we may call it so. Herein, he has more relied on himself. There is scarcely a method of treatment which he has adopted on authority only. The teachings of eminent authors and successful surgeons have usually been tested by the writer himself. He has something of his own to say on each branch of his subject.

This is the most notable publication in Bengali medical literature—probably the most important contribution to scientific literature by any native of India, scarcely excepting the treatise on Indigenous Materia Medica of the late lamented Uday Charan Dutt. It is a complete system of obstetrics, in theory and in practice, combining physiology, pathology, diagnostics, therapeutics, accoucheuring, sanitation and hygiene, down to the smallest details of nursing, even medical sociology and jurisprudence. Everything in fact is there, except operative obstetrics, on which the author announces a separate work in the press. And yet it is compressed within the small compass of less than 400 pages. It is a valuable handbook, always to the point. So exhaustive a book is scarcely to be met with anywhere. It will bear translation into English. We hope it will soon be translated into the other Eastern tongues. We can confidently recommend it to the Association for Supplying Medical Aid to the Women of India for adoption in their schools and hospitals and for circulation among midwives, *daees*, and families. Being at once scientific and practical, it is peculiarly adapted for general as well as professional use.

Commencing with the structure of the pelvis and after describing the anatomy of generation and the mechanism in of conception, the author plunges into the diagnosis of pregnancy, the disorders incident to it, abortion and premature delivery. He next dwells on Labor, in its classification of normal and abnormal. From the mechanism of labor, he passes through twin pregnancy and spurious pregnancy, to the signs of death of the fœtus in the womb, the manipulation of pregnancy, the rules to be observed in the several stages of labor, finishing with an exhaustive medicinal treatment of the different conditions and difficulties involved. Thus, we have medicines on eleven different heads, from those to facilitate labor to those to remedy the after-weakness. Then we come to inversion of the womb, the management of woman after child-birth, with remedies for general complaints of lying-in-

females, the secretion of milk, with remedies for disorders in respect of it, whether in the way of absent or deficient or excessive secretion. The management of the child follows. The subject of unnatural labor is again taken up and thoroughly treated. Long-lasting labor pains, plural and monstrous births, management of the several presentations of the head, face, breech, and body of the fœtus, accidents and ailments in labor and in the puerperal state, prolapse of the cord, adherence of the placenta, hemorrhage, ante-partum and post-partum, laceration of the perineum, rupture of the womb and the bladder, &c., are the principal topics in this part. Nor are the deeper constitutional derangements, such as puerperal fever, pyæmia, mania and convulsions, spurious peritonitis, &c., neglected. A Chapter on sterility completes the main subject of the book. But the book continues. Indeed, some of the most interesting topics are reserved for the end. To many high class readers, this part will be the most valuable. For, here by way of an Appendix, some of the most important and difficult problems are reviewed with knowledge and ability, and in a lucid way. The arrangement is faulty. Subjects which should have been disposed of in the main body, such as Diet and Hygiene of pregnancy, confinement rooms, displacements, easy method of dilating the *os-uteri*, changes in womb after delivery, diseases which complicate pregnancy, &c., are relegated pell-mell to the end, and form, mixed up with the Law of sex, the effects of conception from early marriage, the chronological development of the fœtus, the changes in the mother consequent on pregnancy, &c., a curious *olla podrida*. We suspect some of these matters were after thoughts, perhaps introduced at the request of friends. Anyhow, they are all useful, and some of them very valuable. Thus the author's opinion, founded on long observation and on many cases, will be regarded as conclusive by most candid men engaged in the discussion of the burning early marriage question.

THE LATE SHOOTING CASE.

After a most patient and exhaustive trial in the High Court, lasting for three consecutive days, three innocent men, Pogson, Jones and Sergeant, have secured their freedom to breathe the pure air of heaven once more, the unanimous verdict of the Jury acquitting them honorably on all the four counts, to the manifest satisfaction and delight of the whole body of spectators who thronged the Court. The "Code of the Calcutta Police" seems to say that the innocent shall suffer for the guilty. It is difficult to find any other explanation of the case. How would it have been with these poor fellows had not a friend come forward single-handed to their rescue. I refer to Mr. M.T. Cox. And here I cannot help admiring the noble conduct of this gentleman. We of the governing community have scarcely a single individual of such modest worth. Unasked he not only sacrificed his time and business, but, not content with this, he placed his not over abundant purse at the service of the otherwise undefended, and so helped to remove the burden of their alleged guilt.

My object is to redeem these poor men's character from the common yet popular belief, as indulged in by the *Indian Daily News*, that they were the aggressors. I must first notice the character of the evidence adduced, and the "spotless character" of the witnesses for the prosecution, some of whom are only too well known to fame, and who are familiar with the inside of the Criminal Industrial Branch of the Jail. The conduct and daring of Inspector Forsyth has been throughout in keeping with his scientific training, as being the only individual who, amongst the Police Force, is practised in calling black white or by any other color, to accomplish his jobbery, and his Catechism as a Police Officer teaches him to say that the "end justifies the means in all cases." So it is nothing surprising to find this witness for the prosecution commit himself so culpably. The convict John Mackenzie Scott, ex-Constable of Police, acquitted himself as can only be expected from a man such as he is, bent on promoting the welfare of his "Dictators," and, to my mind, failed in his duty from a fear of excelling the doings of Forsyth; and the others, Jackson, Walters, and Ferriers are, more or less, a "Combined Family," and as such their interests are consolidated, and therefore all must be agreed, that White is Black, and Black is no color at all. The only safe conclusion I can arrive at, is that from interested motives Inspector Forsyth, having once been the recipient of Walters' charity, was bound to help Jackson, father-in-law of Walters, who was the only proper person to be prosecuted for the affair. From the scathing, and not over severe language of their able Counsel, Mr. R. Allan, I feel convinced that the Commissioner of Police or his Deputy, Mr. Lambert, will, for the good of the Police Force, reduce Inspector Forsyth to the grade of a Constable, that is, if he can bring his mind to bear favorably on the conduct of this man, otherwise to mark his sense of displeasure by discharging him from the Force. Retaining

him in the Force would have a most demoralising influence on others, and, as it is, his conduct in this prosecution has done much harm to the reputation of the Calcutta Police Force. The conduct of Forsyth is similar to that of Policeman Endeavour of Cass notoriety, and he therefore is deserving of being prosecuted, for getting up the disgraceful conspiracy, in order to shield his friend's father-in-law (Jackson). Both Mr. Allan and the gentlemen of the Jury have earned the respect and good will of all right-thinking persons, and, in my opinion, no other but Mr. Allan could have handled the case in so able a manner, which means that he has gained a glorious victory, and rescued honest men from being branded for life as villains of the deepest dye.

A LOVER OF TRUTH.

THE PHOOKA CASE.

(Before C. H. Keily, Esq., Chief Presidency Magistrate.)

The following judgment was delivered by his Worship on the 31st January :—

The accused in this case is charged with committing an act of wanton cruelty on a cow under the following circumstances, as described by the witness Moreton: "I first saw the accused milk two cows in the natural way. He came to the third, a little black one, and deliberately subjected it to phooka. The result was the cow's back hunched up, the tongue came out, the eyes appeared to be starting from their sockets, she groaned, and appeared to be in extreme agony." Three Veterinary Surgeons, Messrs. Hart, Symonds, and Greenhill, were called on behalf of the prosecution. Mr. Hart, who apparently had seen the process put in practice, says: "The effect, in my opinion, is painful to the animal operated upon. I consider it a barbarous piece of cruelty." Later on the same witness says: "The effect on milk is nothing, it is a perfectly useless operation. I don't think the milk is affected either as to quality or quantity by the operation. I don't think there would be any difference in the appearance of the milk. If the operation is repeated it is productive of pain to the cow, and therefore must do it harm. I do not think it would benefit the cow in any way." In cross-examination the same witness says: "The blowing being an unnatural process, the forcing in of air into parts not intended by nature to receive it must be attended with pain. Ill effects would follow from the process if continued." Mr. Symonds describes the process as painful to the cow, and utterly useless. Mr. Greenhill also describes the process as one which causes pain to the cow. "The process, if persisted in," he adds, "would affect the general health of the cow. An animal daily tortured in this way would be nervously affected, and the general constitution thereby impaired. It would not make the cow more serviceable for the use of mankind, it would have the reverse effect. The operation would, in my opinion, tend to bring about disease in the local organs operated upon."

For the defence two cowkeepers, Hutto and Mohesh Marik, have been called, and a medical witness, Dr. Gabriel. The two cowkeepers admit that they are in the habit of performing this operation daily. Hutto on a large proportion, Mohesh Marik on each, of his milch cows. They agree in asserting that the operation is necessary in the case of cows who have either lost or been separated from their calves. They both adhere to the theory that it is necessary for a cow to lactate before she can be milked, and that the operation of blowing is therefore indispensable in order to produce that effect on the cow, a result which they allege is invariably brought about by a sucking calf when it first applies its mouth to the teat. They stoutly deny that the operation harms the cow in any way. Dr. Gabriel, who apparently was specially retained to witness the operation after the institution of the present prosecution, describes the process as he saw it performed, and is of opinion that the process does not cause pain. He, moreover, is of opinion that there is some ground for believing that the operation does induce the flow of a larger supply of milk than could be obtained by the ordinary process of milking.

Mr. Palit, for accused, did not seriously contend that the process was one which did not cause pain to the cow. He, however, said that the operation, though painful, was not a wantonly cruel act. The act, he asserted, as shown by his witnesses, did conduce to a more plentiful supply of milk, and, even if this supposition was an erroneous one, it was beyond doubt that a sincerely mistaken belief in its efficiency was entertained generally by cowkeepers in this part of India, a fact which in itself was sufficient to prevent the application of the word "wanton" to the operation. The process, he further submitted, was had recourse to, not with the object of causing unnecessary pain to the animal, but to increase the supply of milk—a perfectly legitimate object, and done in the pursuit of a lawful purpose. Mr. Sale, for the prosecution, on the evidence given, denied that the process was done for a legitimate object, or for a lawful purpose. He strongly demurred to the argument which would make the belief of the person who was charged with an act of cruelty, whether erroneous or not, a determining factor in the question whether such act was a piece of wanton cruelty.

All cruelty, he urged, fell within the words "wanton cruelty," unless shown to be necessary. It would be only an act of necessary cruelty if done in the interests of the animal, or for the benefit of mankind.

I have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the repulsive processes described by the witness Moreton causes pain to the cow. Dr. Gabriel, it is true, is not of this opinion, but it is clear, I think, that the operations he witnessed were not, and probably were never intended to be, genuine specimens of the process. He himself admits that, if the cows he saw operated upon had exhibited symptoms like those spoken to by the witness Moreton, there would be no doubt that the animal was suffering extreme pain. The evidence of the Veterinary Surgeons show that pain is caused. The symptoms as described by Moreton remained unchallenged by cross-examination. Mr. Palit, moreover, practically admitted that the process did cause pain, for the whole of his arguments rest on the supposition that pain was inflicted by the operation. Mr. Sale's argument, which would not prevent the belief of the person inflicting the pain from having any voice in the determination of the question whether the act was one of wanton cruelty, is, in my opinion, a sound one. To hold the contrary would be to make the purpose and object of the Act subservient to the caprices and superstitions of the most ignorant and debased portions of humanity. Some support for the contention raised by Mr. Palit is alleged to be found in the judgment of Day, J., in *Lewis vs. Farmer*, L. R., 182, B. Div., 534. I do not, however, read that judgment as giving any real support to Mr. Palit's arguments. In that case the crucial test applied by the Judge was not whether the object aimed at by the person who inflicted the pain was one which he honestly believed in, but whether the object itself was a legitimate one, or as put by Kelly, C. B., in *Murphy vs. Manning*, L. R. 2 Exch. Division, 307, whether the act was done for a lawful purpose. Wills, J., however, in the case first quoted makes it quite clear that if effect is to be given at all to the honest belief of the operator it must be restricted to his belief that what is done will benefit the animal. Now, although the two cowkeepers have the hardihood to assert that the cows subjected to this process thrive and grow fat under the operation, the evidence of all the skilled witnesses is the other way. The cowkeepers, moreover, admit in cross-examination that they rarely keep a cow longer than one season, and that only during the interval she is in milk. Directly the udders are dry, a very large proportion of these cows are fattened up, and sold to the butchers—a procedure, which, in my opinion, strongly corroborates the opinion expressed by the Veterinary Surgeons that the constant repetition of the process does impair the constitution of the cow. The essential point for discussion in this case is whether the act, which is undoubtedly a barbarously cruel one, and which, in my opinion, causes grievous pain to the cow, can be justified on the ground that it is done with a lawful purpose, or for a legitimate object. The evidence shows that the operation is nearly always restricted to cows whose calves are dead or have been sold shortly after their birth.

Both the native witnesses examined on behalf of the accused support this statement. The witness Mohesh Marik admits further that he keeps no cows but those who require this peculiar mode of persuasion before they can be induced to part with their milk. What apparently is done by the cowkeeper is, that he year by year purchases fresh cows, either sells or disposes of in some way the calf soon after it is born, and then subjects the mother divorced from her offspring to such artificial stimulants as his ingenuity has invented for obtaining as plentiful a supply of milk as he believes would be procurable had the calf been left in attendance on the mother. If this be the object which is supposed to justify recourse to this unnatural and cruel process, and in my opinion no other conclusion can be drawn from the evidence of the cowkeepers, it is clear that the object is neither a legitimate one, nor done for a lawful object. Under these circumstances, I have no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that the operation described by the witness Moreton as having been performed by the accused, is a wantonly cruel abuse of the cow, and that he is therefore liable to punishment under section 2 of Act I. of 1869. In the view I have taken of the case it is not necessary to come to a definite finding whether the operation does or does not have the effect on the supply of milk ascribed to it by the witnesses for the defence. If, however, a decision on this point be desirable, I strongly incline to the opinion given by the three Veterinary Surgeons that the operation is a wholly unnecessary abuse of the animal operated upon. It has transpired during the course of these courts of persons charged with more than one prosecution in these courts of persons charged with a similar offence. The fines imposed in those cases have not apparently had the deterrent effect anticipated, for it is clear that the process of "phooka" or blowing is still carried on extensively in Calcutta. Under these circumstances, I think it necessary to impose on the accused the full penalty provided for the offence under the Act. I sentence the accused Nowcourie Gowala to pay a fine of Rs. 100, or in default to suffer six weeks' simple imprisonment under section 67 of the I. P. Code, as effected by section 40 of the same Code when amended by section 21 of Act X. of 1886.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned lots of the Dhurumtollah Market, the property of the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta, will be put up for sale by public auction, if not previously disposed of, at the Municipal Office, on Monday, the 5th March 1888, at 1 P. M.

Lot No.	Nature of existing Superstructure.	Approximate area of superstructure in S. ft.	Area of land in the lot more or less.	Estimated monthly rental.	Total rent of each lot.
			B. C. Ch. Sft.	Rs. As.	Rs. As.
6	Lower-roomed house, 2 chandnies ...	3,748	.....	65 0	
"	Ditto 18 doors at Rs. 3 each...	2,224	0 12 10 6	54 0	131 0
"	Ditto 1 room ...		.....	12 0	
10	Ditto 9 shops at Rs. 10 each...	1,653	0 2 4 33	90 0	90 0
11	Ditto 4 shops at Rs. 4 each...	1,653	0 2 4 33	16 0	
"	Ditto 5 shops at Rs. 10 each...		.....	50 0	66 0
12	Ditto 10 shops ...	1,734	0 3 1 35	35 10	35 10
13	Ditto 11 shops ...	1,890	0 3 3 37	42 3	
"	Portion of occupied land about 442 s. ft ...		.....	3 0	45 3
19	Lower-roomed house, 5 shops ...		.....	45 6	
"	Ditto 1 stable and a room ...		0 9 9 12	10 0	80 6
"	Tenanted land ...		.....	25 0	
20	Ditto ...		0 10 10 38	45 0	45 0
21	Lower-roomed building in ruins ...	546	0 3 4 0	24 0	
"	Tenanted land ...		.....	6 0	30 0

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

1. The Commissioners' limit which has been fixed by a Special Committee appointed for the purpose, will be kept in a closed cover by the Chairman, and the highest bidder above this limit, is to be the purchaser; if any dispute arise as to the last or highest bidding for the lot, the same shall be put up again and resold.

2. A deposit of 25 per cent on the amount of the purchase-money is to be made by the purchaser immediately upon the lot being knocked down, and in default thereof, the premises to be immediately put up and resold at the risk of the purchaser.

3. The little to the property will be a conveyance from the Commissioners.

4. The residue of the purchase-money shall be paid within 15 days of the date of sale: and in case of default in payment of such residue, the purchaser shall forfeit his deposit, which shall be received and taken as and by way of liquidated damages, the sale to such purchaser shall be wholly at an end, and the Commissioners shall be at liberty to resell the same without any reference to such first purchaser, but at his risk.

5. The Commissioners will, if required, furnish a deed of conveyance, such conveyance being prepared by the Solicitors of the Corporation at the expense of the purchaser, who will likewise have to bear the cost of the stamp duty and registration and of any attested copies of deeds or covenants to produce those that may be required.

6. The Commissioners will enter into no other covenant than that they have done no act to encumber.

7. A lithographed plan of the Market, divided into the lots notified for sale, may be had at the Municipal Office, from the undersigned, on payment of eight annas.

R. TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

4th February 1888.

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GLYCERINE - AND -
CUCUMBER

For INDIA and all HOT CLIMATES this sweetly scented emollient Milk is INVALUABLE
IT KEEPS the SKIN COOL and REFRESHED in the HOTTEST WEATHER,
Removes and prevents all SUNBURN, REDNESS, FRECKLES, TAN, etc., and
RENDERS the SKIN DELICATELY SOFT, SMOOTH and WHITE.
It entirely prevents it from becoming DRY and WRINKLED, and PRESERVES the
COMPLEXION from the scorching effects of the SUN and WIND more effectually than any
other preparation. The IRRITATION caused by the BITES and STINGS of INSECTS is
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A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta,

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,
on Tuesday, the 28th February 1888, at 3 P. M.
BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. The Chairman to lay before the Commissioners the Budget of Income and Expenditure for the year 1888-89.

2. Baboo Durgagutty Banerjee to move "that the reports of proceedings of Meetings of the Commissioners be prepared, printed and circulated to the Commissioners and the press a week after the Meeting."

3. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Committee at a Meeting held on the 7th February.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

Dr. S. C. Mookerjee, the editor of what is undoubtedly one of the ablest papers in the country in point of literary power is the author of a pleasant little book of Travels in East Bengal. The author is master of a tacy style of English which many an Englishman may envy. Humorous descriptions and caustic satire enliven every page. There is throughout a vigour and freshness of style that lends a charm to the veriest commonplace. If there were, however, a higher purpose in the publication of this book than to lighten the weary evening hours of the ordinary reader, we confess to a feeling that the author has failed in such an object. We are afraid there is not poetry enough in us to body forth in imagination the beauty of the scenes which the author has described in his voyages and fro between Dacca and Tipperah. Humourist as he is Dr. Mookerjee will remind us of the words of the poet that the point of a "jest lies more in the ear of him that hears it than in the tongue of him that utters it." As with the jest so it is with the description. We do not say that the charge is unfounded. Prosaic as we are, drudging away at the desk, perhaps it is that we lack capacity to follow in imagination what the author has doubtless delineated with an admirable pen.

One of the chief impressions that a reader will receive from a glance at the book is the somewhat strained relation between the Babus and the Anglo-Indians. The author pours a flood of ridicule upon the lordly airs of our "rulers." He hits hard indeed in his account of the Colonel at whist enduring a Babu looking on, when on board the steamer, and

of the whiteman's condescension in bowing to the black nigger. Happily we in the South are not so badly off in our commerce with the representatives of Western civilization. In spite of several instances of conflict and misunderstanding Englishmen and Hindus pull on agreeably together. But the author, notwithstanding his involuntary feeling of aloofness from the European, is no stranger to the blessings for which the West has laid us in debt. He has a keen appreciation of the enjoyments of this Westernized life of ours. He looks for ever forward and casts no longing lingering look behind at the things with which we have shaken hands and parted. His heart is in the continuance of British supremacy in the East. And agitation is his utmost weapon for the maintenance of his rights. But he will have nothing with spurious agitation. We extract below a paragraph of excellent advice to his brethren of the press. [Extract.]

The author recounts his adventure with the Railway officials of Sealdah with considerable humour. We feel an irresistible temptation to quote it *in extenso*, but space forbids. How the greenback was no legal tender, why silver of the Calcutta mint was wanted and how the currency question stood stiff and frowning despite the Editors and Magistrates who had accompanied the author to bid him good-bye at the station, and how again with the advent of the Justice of the Peace all objection to receiving the currency-note vanished, are all narrated in a style that is fittingly characterized only by the word "delightful." In another place the author introduces the reader to the Hindu belief in the auspicious hour for starting on a journey in language of such playful railery that we make no apology for quoting it. [Extract.]

The untoward circumstance of the day, the event to which we have already alluded namely the refusal of the Railway officials to receive the currency-note in payment of the fare, elicits the following humorous confession of human weakness. [Extract.]

The author has some trenchant criticism on the insolation of the Englishman, which makes him inaccessible to the complaints of extortion or plunder by their menials. They are too absorbed to know all that passes about them and the wrongs that are committed in their names are unnoticed as mere trifles for they have rarely any idea of their magnitude. It is only too well known throughout the country how blackmail in the shape of money or provisions is levied upon the inhabitants when the Collector is on tour. It would be difficult to believe the thing could go on under his very nose without his connivance if we did not know his exclusiveness and his distaste for mixing with the people.

The author devotes the greater part of the book to a description of the people and the external aspect of the country that he passed through in his two trips to Tipperah from Calcutta and back. He has a good deal to say about the customs of some of the people he becomes acquainted with. He makes a discovery of the debris of a Portuguese colony in Tipperah that has become debased in morality and sunk in superstition. Although there is not much in the book that is instructive to the serious student, the grace of diction and the ease of style carry the reader pleasantly through. It would be difficult to rescue such a subject as he has chosen from dullness without his extraordinary command of language. We cannot promise more than a brief span of life to the book. It will prove what is abundantly clear to the readers of the *Reis and Rayyet* that the author is an adept in English composition. He is a lover of nature and he paints scenes and situations with an artist's pencil.—*The Hindu*, November 7, 1887.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the

secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold. The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible. The author is impartial in his censures. There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGLA. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; *the Career of an Indian Princess*, *Her Highness the late Scindura Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee.—He writes: [Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between 1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read:—[Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described:—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when

he speaks his brethren should listen to him. . . *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

It may be well-known to all of our readers that Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee the veteran editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* newspaper, has just published a book describing the four voyages that he made between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah when he had to go and to return from the latter place in the capacity of the minister to its prince. The literature yet produced in the English tongue by our own countrymen is very scanty and any sensible addition to it cannot well escape the attention of the public press. Much greater therefore should be the attention claimed on behalf of a book which comes from the pen of so well known a writer in the field of Indian journalism as Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee. That gentleman's career as a writer fills nearly the last thirty years, and there has hardly been any subject of public importance during that long period which has not occupied his attention. Master of an inimitable racy style, with a vast store of classical allusions ever ready at the call, and possessing an infinite fund of humour, our author often enlivens every thing that he touches, and his peculiar strength lies in description. We therefore welcome the appearance of this book more especially as the subject is one which to make it interesting requires a lively colouring and a rich, picturesque and imaginative description. There exist several books of travels written by eminent Englishmen, and every one of these differs perhaps, in their conception and plan of execution. Of these none was more widely read in the course of the last few years than Carlyle's reminiscences of an Irish Journey in 1849. That book is made up of extracts from diaries and the worst features of it are the bitter and caustic personal remarks interspersed throughout the book. However that may suit the polished and fashionable taste of England, in our country it would have been singularly out of place and we are glad that Babu Sambhu Chunder has confined himself to the description of those natural sceneries he passed through, and the means of travel in the distant and little-known regions of East Bengal. That the rivers of Bengal, with their circuitous and entangling courses do enshrine in them a deep spirit of poetry and are of sincere interest to the real man of imagination, is proved by the fact that Sir William Hunter, than whom a more accomplished man of letters never passed the best years of his life in Bengal, should have chosen the subject for his very interesting address at Oxford, the other day. The gentle waves, the gentler ripples, the grassy banks, the ever-entwining courses, the pleasant air, the sceneries on both sides make the rivers of Bengal a genuine thing of interest to those whose eyes are perpetually fed by the artificial gloss and dross of civilization and few could have set perhaps the loveliness of our rivers in better light than our accomplished author. His eloquent sentences, marching in regular order one after another, and embodying in their selves, every minute detail, that can lend to a scene its finest artistic effect, seem to place the reader in the very midst of sceneries described, and the man of leisure who would acquaint himself with the state of things in East Bengal, can hardly resort to a better book. The journeys which are described in this volume are certainly uneventful and though they correspond to facts as they furnish no interesting situation, no critical moments, to the seeker of intellectual excitement and thus will no doubt constitute a serious objection to the book on the part of sensational seeking readers. None has however any thing to quarrel with the choice of a subject that any author may choose to write upon and none of the outside public can afford any explanation as to why the author should have preferred one subject to another. We think however there are one or two indications of bad taste. Still we welcome the appearance of this book and trust that it is but the first of a long series of works in writing which our author should spend the matured experience and the literary facility of a well-spent life.—*Young Bengal*, Feb. 2, 1888

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27, Dalhousie Square.

Secretary.

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NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ENGLAND is still the great country for money, and monarchy is still cherished among the millions, and, above all, the Queen's popularity is beyond question. The women in especial are proud that their sex is on the throne. They are at any rate prepared to make sacrifices for their sentiment. In view of the Golden anniversary of her Reign, a movement was started for the "Women's Jubilee Offering." Above £80,000—over ten lacs of Rupees—was raised, though the offering was to be an equestrian statue of the late Prince Consort. Between the cost of this work of art and other expenses and extravagances, the Committee could scarcely require more than £10,000. The whole subscriptions being placed at Her Majesty's disposal, she has intimated her desire to devote the surplus of £70,000 to provide nurses for the sick poor, and she has asked the Duke of Westminster, Sir James Paget, and Sir Rutherford Alcock, to form themselves into a committee for advising Her Majesty on the best mode of realising her intention.

LORD LEVESON, the young hopeful of Lord Granville, has been the subject of much anxiety to friends. A healthy manly youth, not yet out of his teens though just out of Eton, with a grand reputation, he was, after the absurd restless way of many of his countrymen, playing with a small silver coin in his mouth, when it slipped down his throat and stuck in it. Medical aid was soon obtained but by that the coin had gone too far for return. Instead, it was forced down into the stomach. And there it remains. It gives no uneasiness, but it is an ugly intruder, and cannot be trusted to remain perfectly quiet. Sir Andrew Clarke—Sir Morell Mackenzie being not available we suppose—has been consulted, and has arranged with the local surgeon for an operation the moment Lord Leveson fevers or shows signs of constitutional derangement.

MR. MAGINS VOLK, of the Brighton Electric Railway, has devised an electric dog-cart for ordinary roads, the motive to be supplied by six accumulators which may be charged with power for a six hours' run. The speed is disappointing. On a soft macadamised road the drag will carry two persons, at the rate of four miles an hour. With all respect for Zeus and Indra and Benjamin Franklin, that is too slow a coach for this generation!

THE Queen's Bench Division has awarded £800 damages to Mrs. Mathias, wife of Major Mathias, of the Gordon Highlanders, against the London and South-Western Railway Company. When travelling from Clapham to Coombe Maldon, she stood up to take her ticket from the purse. The train jerked, and the carriage door not being properly fastened, it opened and she fell on the platform, sustaining injuries. The Indian Railways are more fortunate.

A CONSIDERABLE burglary has taken place in England. The house of Mr. Grenfell, late M. P. for Salisbury, was broken into and jewellery worth about £4,000 abstracted.

*JUST now there seems a flush of cash everywhere but in India. The

speech from the throne opening the Prussian Diet, congratulates the country on the flourishing state of the finances beyond expectation.

COREA—a sort of Chinese Egypt—has at last been definitively granted by the Emperor independence. The Koreans have sent an embassy to Europe.

THE loyal offers of military assistance by the Native States, has attracted military inspection of their troops by the Supreme Government. Major H. Mellis, of the Bombay Corps, has been deputed for the purpose.

THE *Mahratta* is engaged in an elaborate review of the Financial Statement, in the course of which the native members of Council are justly taken to task for their incompetence in dealing with the subject and their neglect of the interests of the country at large.

THE *Bombay Gazette* too is distinguishing itself by its criticism of the financial policy and rebuking Mr. Steel as the representative of commerce and the independent European community for his courtly attitude.

THE Ducks are down on their representative in Council in special. The *Bombay Gazette* says it has received several letters complaining of the new native member. Perhaps it is yet too soon to judge Sir D. M. Petit, a man of venerable age, just called to a new and difficult sphere, in a distant land, and cut off from the counsel and help of friends.

ON the subject of the resignation of the Viceroy, the *Mahratta* speaks with commendable moderation and perfect candour. The writer is much of our mind.

THE Secretary of State, we are glad to learn, has agreed to the reduction of one of the best plums of extra-Indian patronage out of the revenues of India, by the abolition of the Director-in-Chief of the Indo-European Telegraph, and making over the duties of his office to the Director-General of the Telegraph in India. We suppose the suggestion emanated from the Finance Committee.

THE Resident in Kashmir telegraphs from Sialkot that the latest report received from Jummoo on the 16th inst. gives four fresh attacks of Cholera and two deaths in the army and two cases in the city.

Sardar Ayub Khan has arrived close to Teheran, and may be expected to reach Baghdad within six weeks.

His Highness the Gaekwar arrived at Baroda yesterday (21st) morning.—Press Commissioner.

THE Home remittance from 1st April 1887 to 18th February 1888 amounted to £13,272,800 out of the total Budget estimate of £16,114,000 for the official year 1887-88.

IN connection with the deserved elevation of the Maharaja of Vizianagram to the Supreme Legislative Council, the *Muslim Herald* recommends the further personal distinction of a salute enjoyed by his father.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE son of Sir Savalay Ramasamy of Madras was recently attacked with small-pox. For safe and speedy recovery, and as a thanks-offering to the Almighty, the mother has offered to the local Municipality to build three Vaccine Depôts—one on the Monegar Choultry Road, one in Black town and one in Egmore.

THE Bellary District Registrar, Mr. L. Rama Rao, has been relieved of a watch and some wearing apparel by an interesting relative—for the nonce. Mr. Rama Rao was away from the station. In his absence, a stranger presented himself to the person in charge of the house, as the Registrar's brother-in-law. He was guilelessly accepted, and every due attention was shewn him. In the absence of the master, the brother-in-law had complete command, and he stayed in the house two days. On the third day he dressed himself in the apparel of the absent owner and left the house for a walk, leaving directions for lunch. The lunch was ready but the brother-in-law did not return to it, and is *non est*.

(We wonder who was *our* wife's-brother in the company of Sir Steuart Bayley, who, at the last exhibition of the Oriental Seminary, relieved us of our male jewellery of the same kind. He is a costly connection, but highly respectable withal. For, it was a brilliant gathering of which he was a unit, consisting of great Europeans and natives, headed by the Lieutenant-Governor and tailed by officers of the Police. The latter must know him, of course, for he is a greater connection of theirs. Such Chevaliers could scarcely be introduced into such places without the knowledge and kindness of the guardians of the public peace.)

THE Rev. Dorasawami Nather announces a simple cure for cholera. He speaks confidently of its efficacy after a pretty extensive trial, and Mr. Krishnama Chari, Government Pleader at Trichinopoly, writes to the *Madras Mail* in confirmation.

A SAD accident took place on the 31st January, at Delhi. There was a large gathering of relations and friends at the house in the Matra Nil of Manik Chand, a shawl merchant, on the death of his wife. As the corpse was taken outside to be conveyed in procession for disposal, many of the inmates and visitors, mostly women and children, hurried to the wooden balcony of an attached building overlooking the public lane. In the act of shouting what the Irish call the *Ulahoo*, down they came with the whole ricketty verandah, on the heads of the poor beggars stationed for a charitable distribution in the thoroughfare under the structure. Of the latter seven men were immediately killed, of the former six women and three children, while some thirty persons altogether were more or less injured, but none seriously.

MR. PRICHARD, the Commissioner in Sind, is shortly expected to be at Lahore, to arrange the preliminaries for the annexation of Sind to the Punjab, Dr. Pollen officiating in his place in Sind.

WE quote the following to be on the safe side :—

"An American paper gives a simple cure for snake bite. It consists of an immediate application of chloroform to the upper part of the tongue; this powerful anæsthetic, it is said, having the effect of at once counteracting the most poisonous bite."

THE American is beat in his own line by brother Sawney :—

"It is said that a lady, on whose face no spot or pimple was discernible, was lately photographed. On examining the proof the photographer was surprised to find the face was covered with black specks. A second photograph was taken with the same results. The following day the lady died of small pox. The superior sensitiveness of the plate revealed what was invisible to the naked eye."—*Weekly Scotsman*.

A VERNACULAR paper understands that our old friend Abdul Huq now Sir Dilei Jung of Hyderabad, is about to sue the *Pioneer* for defamation. He will claim three lacs of Rupees damages. Don't he wish he might get it? He is certainly worth that amount and a great deal more. But whether the court will hold his honour so high and precious is the question.

WE have received the following telegram from Cuttack :—

At an extraordinary meeting of Jalsa-i-Yaizi-am was held on the 19th, evening, presided over by Babu Kalipada Banerjee, Zemindar and President, local bench. Much enthusiasm prevailed. A lecture founded on Mazzini's life was delivered. The lecturer exhorted the audience to ameliorate the low status of the Mahomedans. The President's fiery

eloquence concluded with vehement invitation to all to join this meeting and afford much encouragement to the members.

THE following reads like a chapter from the Ramayana :—

"A circumstance probably without a parallel even in the history of the United States is just reported in advices received from Ashland, Wisconsin Territory—namely, the destruction of the Town of Wakefield by the fire through the mischievous act of a monkey. The animal was kept in the Vaudeville Theatre, and had the freedom of the place. During the evening of the 25th ultimo, the animal got to some kerosine, covering itself with the oil. It next set fire to itself with a lamp which was burning in the room, and then appeared at the window of the theatre, its antics whilst there amusing the people. Presently the building was in flames, and the monkey, running about in its frenzy, set fire to other places. The buildings were of wood, and the conflagration spread from place to place until the whole town was in ruins. Gangs of roughs during the progress of the fire looted the stores, and in most instances the flames had scarcely reached the places before the robbers commenced sacking the premises. The owners tried to protect their stores, and in the encounters many pistol-shots were exchanged. The owner of the theatre was a man named O'Brien, and between him and a storekeeper named Lewis, whose premises were destroyed, an altercation took place, Lewis blaming O'Brien for allowing the monkey to be in the theatre. O'Brien, becoming enraged, shot Lewis twice with a revolver, wounding him mortally. The damage to property is said to be about 75,000 dols, only about 2,000 dols of it being covered by insurance."

MUNICIPAL squabbles are developing into criminal prosecutions. A newly elected Commissioner of the Budyabaty municipality, Baboo Woornesh Chunder Gupta, laid a criminal information against the Chairman, Baboo Chunder Nath Mookerjee, for defamation, under Section 500 of the Indian Penal Code. The Deputy Magistrate of Serampore, Baboo Kedarnath Dutt, threw out the complaint, the sanction of Government to prosecute being wanting. There was then a motion before the District Judge of Hooghly, who has overruled the Deputy and ordered the restitution of the case. Baboo Woornesh Chunder complains that when before the election he submitted an application on sanitary matters to the municipality, the Chairman recorded a resolution on it with remarks which amount to defamation. The case is being heard by Baboo Radha Madhub Bose, and is hotly contested.

THE Mchter case has ended in a *fiasco*—in the acquittal of the sweeper Kurru. All the same it revives the question of the sanitation of the sewers and of houses connected. The Health Officer, Dr. William J. Simpson, thus gave his opinion in the case :—

"I am the Health Officer of the Municipality. I have visited the premises No. 6, Government Place, North, four times within the last fortnight. My visits were in connection with the death of Mr. D. Mackinnon, alleged to have died of typhoid fever. At each visit I went upon the roof, I saw nothing on the roof to attract attention during the visits. I think it extremely improbable that any foul gases could have gone down the pipe into the deceased's room. The pipe is entirely outside the house, it is open on the roof and leads to a surface drain. Any foul matter that might be on the roof would be exposed to the sun and air. If by any possibility any gas was drawn down the pipe and into the bath-room on the north side of the house it would be so extremely diluted in its passage through the bath-room and bed-room on the north side of the house as to be innocuous before it reached Mr. Mackinnon's bed-room which was on the south side of the house and completely shut off. Matter of that sort in such small quantity and which has been exposed to the sun, would do no harm. It would be very different had it been shut up in some dark place and allowed to ferment. I searched for the cause of this particular disease. I examined the other pipes in the house. There was one passing from Mr. Mackinnon's bath-room, down the east side of the house, to the latrine on the ground floor. This pipe was separated from the latrine by about two feet of surface drain. But this latrine was in such a position that any gases escaping from it could easily pass up the pipe, into the bath-room belonging to the late Mr. Mackinnon. The pipe would act as a sort of chimney. The latrine when I saw it for the first time was in a foul condition, capable of generating foul gases. Being connected with a large cess-pit, indirectly connected with the sewer underneath the pavement in the front of the house, there was plenty of room for foul gases to generate. When the pit was opened a very offensive smell emanated from it. Directly joining the latrine, there was a cow shed, the drainage of which was in a bad state and from which sewer gas emanated. On the south side of the house, there were four rain water pipes directly connected with the latrine cess-pit. On the west side of the house, there is on the same floor as Mr. Mackinnon's bed-room a sort of green house with a pipe, leading to a pipe of the bath-room of No. 5, Government Place. It descends to the ground, and is indirectly connected with the sewer. When this pipe and its indirect connections with the sewer were opened, it was found to be choked up, generating most offensive gases. The sewer in front of the house, has its summit quite close to the late Mr. Mackinnon's house, and if there were any pressure of gases in the sewer they would rise to the highest point. From enquiries made, as to the sanitary condition of the offices of Mr. Mackinnon and Mr. Graham, I found that there was nothing wrong there. Within the last

year there have come to my knowledge a number of buildings on the Strand Road, and Old Court House Street. There were cases of typhoid fever in the Telegraph Office, also in the premises of the Medical Stores, in Hare Street, and in Hastings Street. All these I investigated, and I was satisfied that the fever was in each case due to faulty drainage. Several other cases have come to my knowledge, but I have no personal knowledge of them. The sewers that were opened in this part of the town were offensive. This was mainly due to there having no flushing arrangements. I think the Municipality should keep a larger number of competent house drainage inspectors, whose duty it would be to keep a strict supervision over contractors' work and also to make a systematic house to house inspection. The latrine at No. 6, Government Place, I think, should not have been erected on its present site. The pipe leading up to Mr. Mackinnon's bath-room should have been so constructed that no gases, drawn up through it could enter the bath-room. The insertion of an S shaped trap in the bath-room, and the prolongation of the pipe up to the roof, would have remedied the defect. In the latrine itself there should have been an ordinary trap, but I would not have sanctioned a latrine there. Traps on the top and below should have been insisted upon. Precautions should have been taken as regards the rain water pipes, which would aid in diffusing poisonous gas in the house, had they defective joints. A better arrangement could have been for them to have discharged themselves at the corner of the pavement; they should not have been connected with the sewer at all. The same remarks would apply to the pipe on the west side. It should have had a trap, at the level of the green house, and should have discharged into an ordinary modern trap and have been disconnected from the sewer. These are precautions which a competent sanitary inspector in the Municipality would have insisted upon. Such remedies for the defects I have pointed out would have, as a matter of course, been insisted upon in England. The reason for them not being insisted upon here is owing to the paucity of inspectors. I recommended in the beginning of the year that a larger staff of sanitary inspectors should be appointed, but my recommendation was looked upon as outside the province of the Health Officer, and so was not adopted."

The Chief Magistrate, Mr. Reily, has accordingly recorded the following conclusions:—

"The conclusions which, in my opinion, follow upon a consideration of the facts elicited in this case, are two-fold. It is, in the first place, made apparent that sewer gas in abundant quantity impregnated the air daily breathed by the late Mr. Mackinnon in the house, No. 6, Government Place, North, which he occupied, and that the danger, and, in all probability, the fatal result attributable to the presence of such gas in the atmosphere might have been averted by the vigilance of a staff of competent officers working under a system of proper sanitary inspection; and, secondly, that the act of the accused contributed in no appreciable extent to the causes which endangered life in that house. The accused is discharged."

The guilt of the death is thus diverted to the head of the Corporation for the Town of Calcutta. The principal offender is the sewer, and so long as the underground drainage is maintained in whatever state of flushing, houses should not be directly connected.

THE ever-agitating Dacca has for the moment been cast into shade by Lahore. The latter capital engages the public attention by the protracted Larpent Enquiry which drags its slow length along. The Pleader Mr. Browne pursues his wrath against the Sialkot Divisional Judge Mr. Macauliffe. Mr. Browne's suit for defamation against the Judge was to have been heard this week. Mr. Browne has for one of his clients also sued Mr. Macauliffe for increased maintenance to illegitimate children. A Lahore telegram of the 18th says:—

"Complaint was lodged yesterday in the District Judge's Court here by one Mussanmat Rahiman, daughter of a former bearer in the employ of Mr. M. Macauliffe, Divisional Judge of Sialkote, for the maintenance by that officer of three illegitimate children. The complainant says that about twelve years ago Mr. Macauliffe obtained possession of her from her father, and since then she has lived as his mistress in nine different districts of the Punjab and has had issue by him of two boys and a girl. Mr. Macauliffe brought them to Lahore in May 1884. The complainant says that she finds it difficult to keep, clothe, and educate the children, on the allowance of thirty rupees monthly now made to her. She complained to the Government, which referred her to the Court, and she now asked for fifty rupees per month for each child, Mr. Macauliffe's pay being Rs. 2,700 monthly. The complainant is represented by Mr. Browne, pleader, whose own suit against Mr. Macauliffe, for defamation comes off on the 22nd."

MIRZA SURAYAR JAH BAHADOOR, a Delhi Prince of the House of Timour, who has for several years been a sort of Wandering Jew, "prospecting" throughout the Empire, is at length likely to become somewhat of a fixture in the Far South. It was a lucky star that led him to the Mogul Satrapy of the Deccan. At first he seemed to have met with disappointment. The men in power were too engrossed in the pleasant occupation of sharing between themselves and their own the harvest of palaces, to attend to the wants and wishes of even a princely stranger. But the prince persisted, clung to the place and after two years succeeded at last in getting a mansab of Rs. 400 a year. Herein no doubt history repeats itself. But what a change in

Indian history does the incident proclaim! *The descendant of Timour* submits to be a petty Omrah of the Court of the descendant of Asaf Jah, himself but a grandee of the Mogul Empire though Khedive of Hyderabad. We are glad the rolling stone has gathered enough moss and found a tolerable resting place.

BABOO HARIHAR MOOKERJEE of Uttarpara, Bengal, is not alone in his glory of antipaternal litigation. A rival, in the other gender, has appeared in Old England. Miss Laura Stokes has obtained from a sympathetic jury a verdict against her father for £250 for libel and slander. She had claimed the modest sum of £5,000. The Defendant is a very wealthy man, but unfortunate in his domestic relations. He has apparently spoiled his family and drawn them into revolt by his parsimony. And now they are in league to help one another in forking what money they can out of the old "screw." First the wife separated herself from the husband. He had to settle on her an allowance of 6*l.* per week and 500*l.* down. He was next molested by his son whom he appeased with 125*l.* And now appears against him in court the daughter, supported by the evidence of her mother. The gravamen of his offence was complaining of being robbed by his children. He had apologised for this in a letter which was read in Court, yet the Jury found a verdict for the daughter. But the Judge has refused costs and allowed 14 days for a new trial. The poor plutocrat must, as he left court, have hummed Lord Ullin's exclamation, though in a different sense—

"My daughter! Oh my daughter!"

HERE is an Americanish paragraph from the English press:—

"A most extraordinary case has just been investigated by the East London Coroner. It seems that a commercial traveller, named Moses Raphael, was taken ill, and on 2nd January was removed to the London Hospital. His death took place on 2nd January and at the inquest Dr. Doyle, who had had the man under his care, said that on opening the head he found a penholder and nib, about three inches long, attached to the right orbital plate. It must have been there for a considerable time, as the bone had partially grown over it. The only way that it was possible for the pen and holder to get to the brain was by passing through the eye or up the nostrils. Deceased's widow stated that her husband had never complained of any accident, but that lately he had suffered from pains in his head. Dr. Doyle said it was a mystery how a pen and holder of such size could get into the brain without the man's knowledge."

That is staggering to be sure, but ought not to be rejected on that ground. The people of the West have extraordinary receptive capacity. Pins by the gross have been found in the stomach and in the mouth of girls.

THE Emerald Theatre is continuing its revival of the older plays of established repute. This evening the public will be treated to "Mrinalini" and to-morrow comes off "Megnad Badh." The cast, as announced in another column, is both powerful and attractive. It must be still fresh in the public mind, how, about a dozen years back, Baboo Ghose, in the several characters of Pasupati, Megnad and Rama, won the highest laurels of the profession on the Bengali stage. The revival of the pieces after such a length of time, with Grish Chunder and other veteran actors, must draw crowded houses.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

It was officially stated when the resignation of Lord Dufferin was announced, that Lord Landsdowne, Governor-General of Canada, who is to succeed, will come in December. It was since understood that he might arrive in November. The change in administration may take place sooner than either expected or desired. On Sunday, Reuter telegraphed fixing August as the time when the next man will be here to claim his office. It is now understood that Lord Landsdowne returns to England in October and reaches India early in November, Lord Dufferin probably meeting him at Bombay *en route* to Europe.

LORD DUFFERIN reverts to the diplomatic service. There is some difficulty in finding a suitable place for him in that line. He has been at many courts—Lisbon, St. Petersburg, Stamboul, &c.—and there is an inconvenient and truly British etiquette against the same man holding the same embassy or legation more than once. A Tory Viceroy has just been sent to dissipate and moon after piquant *belles* at the French capital. Sir Edward Malet, the favorite of Bis-

marck, can not be removed from Berlin. Besides, in the present condition of Irish property, Lord Dufferin is scarcely in a mood to take up expensive Embassies. A vacancy may be found for our Viceroy in Italy, however. That can be only a temporary provision, so long as the present party is in power. As soon as there is a change, there is a chance of his Lordship's being taken in in the ministry. His being Secretary of State for India, is only a question of health.

THE next man for Canada is a Stanley—the Lord of Preston, though we wish it might be of Alderley. He is a brother of the Earl of Derby, but, unlike him, a staunch Conservative. He is better known as Colonel (Sir Frederick) Stanley, Secretary for War from 1878 to 1880 and Secretary for the Colonies in Lord Salisbury's first Cabinet. On the formation of the present ministry he accepted the Board of Trade, with a seat in the Cabinet. On the same occasion, by way of further compensation for his reduced official importance, he was created a peer.

THE state of the Crown Prince of Germany causes anxiety. His throat has been operated upon, and the reports of his health are not cheering. The aged Emperor is extremely anxious to see his son at San Remo, but the doctors are opposed to the long journey. Long, that is, for the compressed Continent. In our Colossus of an Empire of vast distances, a journey of 24 or 30 hours is a joke.

THE *Times* has celebrated, with becoming pomp, its centenary. Lord Salisbury, himself a gentleman of the press, is about to crown the event and the services to the country by three generations of the proprietary, by conferring a peerage on the present Mr. Walter, the principal owner. He is rich and deserving, and has often been marked for the honor. How, indeed, has he been so long left in the cold, is a marvel! The puzzle is solved by the London Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* :—

"No one could fairly question the motives with which such an honour would be offered or the propriety of such a proposal on the part of Lord Salisbury. For more than five-and-twenty years this peerage has been talked of, owing to Mr. Walter's personal position as a country gentleman and a politician. It is a very open secret that Mr. Walter would long since have received the offer of a peerage, to which his position renders him more entitled than the average of those who have in that period passed to the House of Lords, were it not for the fear on the part of Prime Ministers of seeming to desire to obtain or to reward influence in connection with the *Times*."

Such is the humiliating confession! Such is the suspicion under which the press labors in England!

THE *Lahore Tribune* reproduces, with presumable approval, our rapid history of the origin of the Larpent Inquiry going on at that capital, and remarks :—

"We think we should correct a mistake in the above account of the Bribery case. Our article of the 30th March last, which led in the end to the appointment of the Arts and Law Examination Committees, was published just two days before Sir Charles Aitchison's departure from the Province. The Committees were appointed during the rule of our present Lieutenant-Governor Mr. J. B. Lyall, who has already won the love and affection of the Punjab by the readiness and pleasure with which he has ever since he assumed its reins of government listened to the representations of the people. Had it not been for His Honor's sincere anxiety to do justice this Bribery case would most probably have been hushed up."

That is paying a poor compliment to the most popular and liberal Governor of the Panjab. But our contemporary is, we believe, far from intending to convey an invidious distinction.

We are too jealous of our credit for accuracy to bear contradiction from even our kind brother in a matter within his own jurisdiction, nay, personal observation. At any rate, we submit only to the coercion of facts. There is no pressure of the kind here. We still believe the facts to be in our favour. It is amusing to see the ultimate human cause of the Investigation himself confusing the chronology of its genesis. The University Committee was independent of the direct initiative of the Local Government. If it was the result of such indirect initiative, it was, we presume, due to the influence of the late Lieutenant-Governor. If we owed the University Committee to the new Lieutenant-Governor, surely that body and the University would have gone through the business in a straightforward valiant fashion. If they had been able to muster up the courage of their convictions, the scandal would have been manfully disposed of long since and all this ado have been saved. That it was not so, was due to the retirement of Sir Charles Aitchison. At one time, indeed, it was feared that

the matter would be hushed up and the delinquent white-washed. The Punjab is indebted to our contemporary for preventing that double scandal. We honor Mr. Lyall for not listening to evil counsel, but the services of the journalist who, under temptations and difficulties, keeps public men and private citizens to their respective duties, should not be forgotten.

THE *Indian Daily News* quotes the following passage from the yet unpublished Resolution of the Bengal Government on the *Sir John Lawrence* enquiry,

"The Lieutenant-Governor is unable to accept Mr. Bushby's explanation as in any way satisfactory, and he regrets that the Port Commissioners should consider it sufficient to draw his attention to the terms of the agreement. Apart altogether from those terms, and from the conditions laid down by the Board of Trade for the acceptance of Indian certificates, Mr. Bushby should have recognised the impropriety of his engaging in any way in the preparation of an equipment, of the sufficiency of which he was afterwards, on behalf of the Government and the public, to judge. As, however, Bushby had the authority of the Vice-Chairman to do the work, the Lieutenant-Governor considers that the case will be sufficiently met by directing that he should be severely censured and required to refund at once, through the Port Commissioners, the honorarium he has received. He should be warned that any future transgression of his agreement in this respect will result in his power of survey being withdrawn. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that, on his return from leave, Mr. Duff-Bruce should be called upon by the Port Commissioners to submit an explanation of his action. Mr. Duff-Bruce, as a servant of Government, must be well aware that no public servant is entitled to receive any emolument, direct or indirect, for any public service rendered by him, beyond the salary attached to his appointment. Mr. Bushby pleads that when he received the sanction of the Vice-Chairman, it naturally followed that he expected some fee or gratuity for the work. Such a plea is opposed to the regulations of the public service; and Mr. Duff-Bruce must explain how far it had his countenance when he gave the permission, which the Port Commissioners have ascertained that he did give."

and is of opinion that the refund of Rs. 1,000 should not go to Messrs. Macneill & Co., but to some charity. Could the Government appropriate the sum even for a benevolent purpose? Certainly, the agents might be advised to devote the refund to the purpose indicated, and Messrs. Mackneill may not be disposed to receive back the money having paid it away for a purpose. The order for severe censure, we take it, is a call upon Mr. Bushby to resign. But he evidences no disposition of the kind, and, like another engineer of another Corporation, sticks to his place for its Rupees, after its dignity has been lost.

THE Corporation which Mr. Robert Turnbull has faithfully to the best of his abilities served for over a generation, has been liberal to him beyond precedent in the matter of his pension. But having swallowed the camel, the good Corporators stuck at the gnat. They grudged not the cash to him, but they did not care to preserve his likeness on canvas. This compliment was left for the public. Accordingly, the friends of the retiring Secretary of the Calcutta Corporation met in the rooms of the British Indian Association and have Resolved upon a portrait to be hung in the Town Hall. The Memorial Committee is remarkable for its long array of names, and the success of the movement is assured. The gentlemen on it may themselves find, by a few Rupees each, the wherewithal for the portrait voted.

AN international question has been quietly solved in India. In execution of a decree of the Hooghly court, the judgment debtor was arrested in Chandernagore. The arresting peons were assaulted and afterwards handed over to the French Police. It was contended that the men exceeded their jurisdiction and executed their commission on French soil without the knowledge of the French authorities. The matter being reported to the Judge of Hooghly, he communicated with the Bengal Government, suggesting a Commission appointed by both Governments to enquire in which territory the arrest was really made. The Lieutenant-Governor, while agreeing with the Judge, sent up the case for higher orders, empowering the Judge in the meantime to apply to the French Governor for release of the peons on bail. The French Government set the men free, and agreed to the "Boundary Commission." The Commission, consisting of two, one representative from each Government, met within closed doors and unanimously decided that the arrest was outside French Chandernagore. The French Government subsequently formally absolved the arresting agency of any blame. The judgment debtor and eight others are now being tried in the Hooghly Magistracy for resisting public officers in the execution of their duty. The Judge

having referred the case to the Magistrate under a repealed section of the Penal Code, Mr. Palit, on behalf of one of the defendants, argued ~~there~~ there was no case. The section quoted by the Judge being no law, that is, no longer of any legal force, he claimed acquittal for his client. The Magistrate adroitly employed against the 'cute barrister-at-law his own weapon, replying that if there was no case, he had no power to make the order applied for. The case has been adjourned to next March for fresh reference from the Judge under unrepealed law.

VERILY, it is the day of the publican and sinners. The Shao has triumphed at last. By a disgraceful Concordat the Faculty of Law have elected him the new Tagore Law professor, and they have—so far as lies with them—guaranteed the next year's man. The legal Dons could not have perpetrated a worse job in office or made a more discreditable use of their functions. We refer, of course, to the intriguers. They started or submitted to an unhallowed compact. And instead of exercising their pure unfettered judgment, in selecting the right man for the right place, without fear or favor, or selfish regard, direct or indirect, they succumbed to the weakness of recommending an "inglorious" though obliging under-limb of the law. There were two other candidates, a barrister-at-law and a learned senior pleader of the local High Court.

The Pleader having in a fair field the better chance, the supporters of the Barrister agreed to the unholy offer of returning him the next year, and recommending the every body's devil of the Pleader bar this time. They all thus voted for the popular imp, singing virtually, The Devil take the hindmost, O!—worth, namely. We hope the Senate will prevent the scandal, and disallow the nomination.

THE Extra Assistant Commissioner and First Grade Munsif of Jorehaut, in Assam, Baboo Kanti Chunder Mookerjee, has won an unenviable distinction as the hero of a nasty affair of love in friendship's guise. Baboo Kanti Chunder is a liberal man, and out of the abundance of heart, he had accommodated a friend in difficulties, one Kherod Prosad Banerjee. He had provided for him, his wife, and child a home and the other necessities. Kherod was too grateful not to acknowledge his obligations to, and confide in, his friend. Kherod was in search of employment and often consulted his friend who was all willing to assist him with advice as he was assisting more substantially with his purse. Kherod had therefore no cause to complain, and when he had to go to some distance, he could not think of a better friend than the Extra Assistant Commissioner, a friend in need indeed, for the charge and protection of his wife and child. Baboo Kanti eagerly accepted the charge, for which he was on the look out, as the event proved. Now that the wife was alone, the Baboo waxed attentive—to fondness. He wanted to see her, to personally enquire of her wants, and, if possible, console her in her loneliness. He opened the preparatory correspondence. The good wife was equal to the trial. She beguiled him by answering his letters, but would not consent to his visits. Nevertheless, he persisted in his efforts to make her personal acquaintance and, in excess of anxiety for her, actually trespassed into her bed-room and making offers of love demanded reciprocation. She was not to be moved, and, while acknowledging obligations to the Baboo for relieving difficulties, rejected his overtures. On the return of the husband, all these passages at love were made known to him. Kherod, in grateful remembrance of assistance received, was unwilling to take the law into his own hands, or otherwise expose his dubious friend, and intimated to Kanti his willingness to accept an apology in satisfaction of the wrong done and attempted. The judicial officer, wise by half, would not commit himself either in writing or by word of mouth. There was no alternative, and criminal complaints were filed. The Assistant Commissioner of Jorehat, Mr. Melitus found his Extra-Assistant guilty of extraordinary conduct, and fined him Rs. 500 for house-trespass. There was of course an appeal, and the Sessions Judge was of the same opinion with the Assistant Commissioner. The High Court (Messrs. Justices Wilson and O'Kinealy) have also just confirmed the order of the two lower Courts. Mr. Kilby, on behalf of Government, pressed the Hon'ble Judges for enhancement of sentence, but their Lordships thought there were not sufficient grounds.

THE whole public service must blush to read the proceedings of the Tangail Case. That limb of the Police Ram Kumar Chackerbutty is a

typical member of a deservedly unpopular profession, but the sub-inspector is respectability itself before the precious Deputy Baboo Soshi Sekhur Dutt. This man's conduct ought to place him beyond the pale of decent society. It is not wrong-doing that we reprobate. We are all sinners, more or less, and ought to have some compunction for human weakness. And no doubt there are greater criminals. But such an unblushing sneak of an offender is rarely, we hope, to be found in the pay of a civilised Government. He is condemned out of his own mouth. His continual prevarication and taking shelter under the protecting clauses of the Evidence Act, reminded us of the Italian Majoosi. He was clearly unworthy of the courtesy of a chair in the witness-box which, at the instance of the prosecuting counsel, was allowed him. We are surprised at the tenderness shown him by Mr. Ghose and the Judge Mr. Pratt, after his conduct under cross-examination. It is for the Government to consider whether such a man can be retained in the public service.

All honor to the Lady of Santosh, for her zeal and sacrifice in exposing such a brace of birds of a feather like the Sub-inspector and the Deputy. She has done good to her country and deserved well of a liberal and righteous Government.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1888.

NATIVE PRINCES IN ENGLAND.

BARODA AND KUCH BEHAR.

THE Gaekwar of Baroda made a kind of triumphal entry into his capital after the conquest in England of the star that now adorns his breast. The young Mahratta ruler is a strong man, else the dazzling prize might overpower the senses all round. The trip to England acts upon our people much as the Grand Tour used to do upon the youth of the wealthy British. The majority are unable to stand it.

Kuch Behar's Fabian policy has, we are glad, been crowned with success. We knew it was coming. When the Jubilee honors list appeared, the absence of the Maharaja's name was remarked. We thought at the time that His Highness stuck for something high. So, while others were decorated, he, already an Honorary Major, seemed glad to be enrolled, with the sporting minister of Jodhpur, an Honorary *Aid-de-camp* to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The Maharani came in for her share in the distribution, but the compliment to the wife accentuated the neglect of the husband. The thing was miserably managed. The India office ought to have known how such a distinction must shock the entire East, but the India office in these matters means Mr. Fitzgerald, we believe, and that officer has shown singular want of sympathy and of tact. To honor the wife at the expense of the husband, is specially monstrous to Hindu ideas. Whoever might be responsible, the Court was committed to a blunder of the same kind and magnitude as that of the Bengal Government when, about a dozen years ago, they sent the Maharanee Surnomoyee a present of gold bracelets and an embroidered robe in the shape of a Benares *saree*. The Lady of Cossimbazar resented it as an affront, but, of course, it was only a mistake of ignorance, and when the matter was explained to her, she contented herself with declining the equivocal honor.

In the present case, too, the title stood a good chance of refusal. A Brahmo lady, bred up from birth at the very centre of a new sect hostile to the popular faith and traditions, and carried far away beyond the sea to the heart of Christendom, was not likely to retain all her wits about her. In her normal state, a genuine Hindu woman would regard with

deep repugnance any proposition to give her a public compliment from which her husband was excluded.

Her Highness having received her compliment, was glad to retrace her steps and be back home from a voyage reluctantly undertaken. His Highness remained. He has won by the delay. As the Arab proverb hath it, the lame mule at last catches the hare. We are truly glad that the Maharaja has at length got his due in the shape of a title, having been created a G. C. S. I. His Highness could scarcely return with complaisancy with less. It has been an anxious if silent trial. The game was scarcely worth the candle. The intrinsic value of these distinctions is small. Even in Vanity Fair, Indian decorations have, by glut in the market, been brought to the pass of the Rupee. They are obviously not necessary for the dignity of princes like Kuch Behar, and now they are more of a drag on their self-respect. Still, with his surroundings and specially his situation for the moment, His Highness could scarcely feel comfortable without his bauble. Though the cost of the thing—we refer to the waste of mind and soul and body, the waste of nationality and of the opportunities for a useful career, all far more serious than the financial drain of a fashionable English career for an Indian Prince—is out of all proportion to the worth of the thing, the expenditure having been incurred, the whistle could not well be dispensed with. We hope to see the Maharaja return a wiser man.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY BILL IN THE BENGAL COUNCIL.

THE Calcutta and Suburban Municipalities Bill is about to pass substantially in the form recommended by the Select Committee. There has been a good deal of debate; several amendments have been proposed and earnestly pressed; Baboo Kalinath Mitter has brought the whole store of his experience of municipal affairs to bear on the discussion, but all to no purpose. The official and European majority has seldom overborne all opposition from the native members with such uniform success as on the present occasion. Most of the important points in the Bill have been disposed of, the question of amalgamation with the Suburbs, or rather of the new boundaries, being, by mutual arrangement, deferred till the last. That on this question the native minority will have any better success, can hardly be expected from the proportion of forces of the two sides.

Infructuous as the debate is, it is not without interest, as affording the public an exposition of official views on the questions involved in the scheme of local self-government. As this is a subject in which the keenest interest is felt at this time by the country at large, we may as well record the more important parts of the debate for the information of our readers.

Sir Henry Harrison has indeed introduced some provisions into the Bill with the express object of curtailing the elective franchise. He is by no means slow to acknowledge the good which the elective constitution of the Calcutta Municipality has been the means of effecting in the administration of the city. But, then, sweet words butter no parsnips. In opposing the Hon'ble Baboo Kali Nath Mitter's amendment for reducing the proportion of Government nomination from one-third to one-fourth, the member in charge of the Bill bore eloquent witness to the benefits of the elective system:—

"In the first place, by the elective system we have attracted to the Corporation a number of Commissioners who have taken the greatest possible interest in the work—Commissioners who have been most

assiduous in their attendance at meetings, who have looked into matters with care and scrutiny such as is hardly found in any other department. They have set their face resolutely against all extravagance, they having thrown the light of discussion on every detail. In fact, it has led to the administration of the municipality being carried on much more in the light of day than it would have been as far as other members are concerned. On questions of contracts and expenditure in detail, they have paid an attention to the work which was hardly paid before. In the next place, the system has had the advantage of bringing in a number of men who owe their position entirely to something outside Government, not to nomination. They feel that they depend for their position on those who have returned them, and who naturally look to them to represent their views and therefore they bring with them the light of real public opinion of a certain class—a comparatively small class in numbers, but a very influential class indeed, and it has been a great advantage that we should have the opinion of a class of this kind pressed upon us, so that we know what they want, and what they object to. Thirdly, we have persons who represent local areas. This has led to many good results. Previously the Town was looked upon very much as a whole, and the wants of the Town as a whole were considered. Now the desire for large improvements has decreased, and the Commissioners are more interested in local wants. This has to some extent worked well, and the large increase in the value of property is in no small degree due to the way in which local improvements have been attended to. Fourthly, the elective system has been successful in this, that people know that they have a Commissioner who represents them, and when they have a complaint, if it is not immediately attended to by the Executive, they appeal to get the assistance of their Commissioner. This has some beneficial results; it causes some degree of self-reliance in the people when they know that they have some one to whom they can go if they do not get immediate redress. The last and most important result is this. The elected Commissioners, who had taken so much interest in the affairs of the Municipality, have themselves improved much by experience in the work. I have seen very great improvement in the tone and method and manner of doing work by the Commissioners who have become familiarised with their labors. In this review I think I have given a very fair account of the work of the elective Commissioners, but after all is not the *role* which I have described the *role* of opposition? We all know that administrative affairs suffer if there is no effective check; and whether we look at the official world as it exists in India, or at the Government as it is in England, worked by party, it is a well-recognised fact that, if there is no adequate check, there is danger either of the work going on too fast, or there is danger of its not being as economical as it might be. The *role* which the elective Commissioners for the native wards have at once assumed is precisely that of checking, watching and controlling in every way, in seeing either that no expenditure is incurred without sufficient reason, or that projects of improvement are not undertaken which cannot be fully justified. They have in fact been the brake-power in the municipal train. But a train cannot progress by brake-power alone, nor can a city thrive by opposition alone. It is also necessary that you should have motive power, and that is precisely the one point in which the Corporation has been deficient."

This deficiency of motive power Sir Henry proposes to remove by some of the provisions he has newly incorporated in the Bill. He is totally opposed to the reduction in the proportion of nominated Commissioners, and views with approval the higher proportion of the nominated Commissioners which prevails in Bombay. In the Bombay Corporation, there are now 72 Commissioners, of whom only half are elected, 16 nominated by the Government directly and 20 by constituencies which, with the exception of the Chamber of Commerce, are under the control of the Government. We can imagine Sir Henry Harrison sighing audibly as he went on speculating that "probably in Calcutta also, had we 12 years ago provided a little more slowly, we should have made more decided and continuous progress, and parties would have been better balanced. But it is a very different thing when you have *shabla rasa*, and when you have a foundation already laid."

This observation called forth a retort from Mr. Macaulay, who was more pronounced in his testimony as to the success of the elective system. "I cannot agree with my hon. friend, Sir Henry Harrison, in thinking that, if we were beginning to legislate for an elective system, we might take the hon. Mr. Irving's proposal for electing only one-half. I think that, looking to the experience we have had of the working of the system as a whole, we should be fully justified, were we in the position of our predecessors, the legislators of 1876, in taking the proportion of two-thirds elected by the rate payers..... The elective system has brought forward men like

my friend the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter, men of ability and business habits, who have done excellent service to the community, and I think that all friends of self-government must rejoice that these men owe their positions, not to the voice of nomination, but to the suffrages of their fellow-citizens."

Baboo Kalinath Mitter's amendment for extending the proportion of elected Commissioners to three-fourths, was of course lost, although it is something that the Hon. Mr. Reynolds and the Advocate-General voted for it.

We congratulate the Hon. Moulvie Abdul 'Jubber on the excellent speech in which he opposed the proposal for restricting the power of nomination by Government, by making over a portion of it to be exercised by the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association, and the Port Trust. That it will injuriously affect the representation of the Mahomedan interest, was established beyond dispute, and the invidiousness of making a distinction between some voluntary Associations and others, was pointed out. On this latter point, Dr. Gooroodas Banerjee spoke with great force and weight. It is significant that the arguments adduced against the proposed system of special constituencies, induced the author of the Bill to vote with the opposition. The amendment was nevertheless lost by a majority of 8 against 5, the latter being formed of all the native members and Sir Henry Harrison.

The discussion on this point afforded Sir Steuart Bayley an opportunity of expressing his views on the subject of nomination. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal said:—

"My own position in reference to the point under discussion is one almost of indifference. I feel very much. I feel very much as Sir Richard Temple said when the question was originally before him—the question whether one-third or one-fourth of the Commissioners should be nominated—that he really cared neither one way nor the other and was quite willing to leave it to the Council to decide. The only purpose to which nomination could be properly put, was to redress any thing like a monopoly of representation. For that purpose I held it to be a very valuable power in the hands of the Government.....the tendency will probably be for the majority of the elected Municipal Commissioners to become more and more the representatives of a single class. By 'class' I do not mean either Hindu, Mahomedan, or European, but people of one way of thinking, and of one set of habits, and it is in that point that the danger of a tyranny of the majority is always more likely to lie."

The same official and European majority to which reference has already been made, carried the day in regard to the chief innovation in the Bill, *viz.*, the proposal of giving plural votes to the wealthier rate-payers.

A REVIVAL IN SANSKRIT PHILOSOPHY.

HAVING only last week bewailed the comparative barrenness of our vernacular literature, in original works of learning or of the higher imagination, it affords us great pleasure to make some exception in favour of the ancient classical language of the land. Two works in Sanskrit have appeared within the last few months which may well redeem the literary character of many years. Both works in Philosophy, both of very considerable merit, and both by Brahman scholars of the old school—Pandits of our indigenous Sanskrit Colleges—they together predicate a movement in the national mind—a Renaissance. It shows that sons of Bengal—the home of Hindu dialectics—are once more fired by learned ambition.

The two works we speak of are a Bhashya commentary on the Vaisheshik School of Philosophy by Mahamahopadhyaya Chandra Kanta Tarkalankar, and a treatise entitled *Tattvasar* by Mahamahopadhyaya Rakhal Das Nyayaratna of Bhatpara. The two Pandits are distinguished *Adhyapakas* of our country, well deserving of the learned titles bestowed on them by an enlightened Government.

• The *Tattvasar* is a short treatise consisting of 15 Karikas in simple Sanskrit, commented upon by the author in the philosophical style which has been developed in Bengal by the logical genius of a long generation of Pandits and

authors, and which, though unintelligible to the uninitiated, is, to the initiated, at once a model of accuracy and precision. In this short work, the author endeavours to revolutionise the received notions of the Naiyayikas, and to prove, with great force and subtlety, that there is no *Jivatma* different from *Manas* (the mind). Unlike Western philosophers, our ancestors believed that *Manas* is only a sixth sense—an internal organ of sense—so subtle that it can not receive more than one impression, thus confining perception to one object or phenomenon. This, according to Pandit Rakhal Das Nyayaratna, is simply a gratuitous assumption. To assume the existence of *Manas* as an organ and of *Atma* as the seer in order to explain a simple fact of perception, is a very complicated procedure. It will greatly simplify the matter if it is assumed that *Manas* is the seer and perception only a *vritti* or faculty of it. Thus Pandit Rakhal Das unconsciously proves the position of Western philosophers.

The work of Pandit Tarkalankar is written in that simple, idiomatic, graceful and forcible style which received its highest development in the hands of Sankara, Kumarila, Udyana and Vachaspati Misra. Pandit Tarkalankar's style will not in fact suffer by a comparison with that of any one of these ancient philosophers.

The *Vaisheshika Darsana*, with a commentary entitled *Upashara*, was edited for the *Bibliotheca Indica* series about 30 years ago, by two distinguished Pandits, namely, Professor Jaya Narayan Tarkapanchanan, of the Calcutta Sanskrit College, then at the zenith of his reputation, and Nanda Kumar Tarkaratna, a young scholar fast rising to the foremost rank of the learned of his time. Death has since removed both these men, Tarkapanchanan at the age of 70, and Pandit Tarkaratna in the prime of his life, at twenty-seven. The outcome of their labours was worthy of their reputation. Between them, they produced a fine edition. The text of author and commentator is correctly given, the whole is accompanied by an excellent gloss (*vivriti*) from the pen of the Gamaliel of the duet, Tarkapanchanan, than whom a more conscientious scholar never took up pen for writing Sanskrit.

Chandrakanta Tarkalankar has done full justice to his illustrious predecessors in the field, by giving a brief and faithful summary of their views in a work of his entitled *Tattvasar*, a fitting introduction to his more advanced works. His present work is a Bhashya on the Vaisheshik Darsana. There is a tendency among the uninitiated to confound all sorts of annotations, whether Bhashyas, Vrittis, Vivritis, &c., &c., by taking all of them to be commentaries. These different sorts of annotations differ greatly from each other in character. A Bhashyakar, for instance, after explaining every word and particle of word in the original, is at liberty to make original reflections, which a Vrittikar is not. A Vrittikar must confine himself to the accepted meaning, a Bhashyakar need not.

Pandit Chandra Kanta has made the fullest and most honorable use of his privileges as a Bhashyakar. He has put in much original matter, and combated many received notions. For instance, gold and silver were always classed as light substances, "tejahpathartha," because they will not evaporate under any degree of heat applied to them, but ever remain bright melted substances. Pandit Chandra-kanta's sense of propriety revolts at such absurd notions, though they have the sanction of high antiquity and are universally accepted. He classes them with Prithivi Pathartha, and says they in no way differ from such substances as lac, wax, and so on.

There is no doubt that the Pandits of Bengal will not easily tolerate the novel features observable in these works and the new ideas they inculcate. Indeed, an interesting controversy is already going on in the vernacular press regarding these startling departures from the ancient methods. We fully believe, however, that the learned authors will be able to maintain their ground. They are responsible for what they have written, and they should try their best to establish their position by pointing out the weakness of their antagonists. If they succeed, they may be remembered in after times among the modern founders of new Schools of Hindu thought.

MONGHYR.

Jamalpoore, February 15.

A case of infanticide or rather murder in cold blood, of recent occurrence, has come to my notice. A young girl aged between 5 and 7, Khattick caste, resident of Kassimbazar (evidently the

place is named after Meer Casim) in Monghyr, happened to be out of her residence to a close neighbour, a *Pasen* (Toddy seller). The inmate of the house, *pasen*, having seen weighty necklace worn by the girl, could not resist the temptation, and consequently, with a view to possess herself of it, took her life. After which she caused the corpse to be buried under the floor. The place being a toddy shop, was much frequented by customers. One day it was noticed by one of them that an awful stench came from somewhere. He was answered that the smell must have proceeded from the dead body, either of a cat or dog. Soon after, the place was dug up and the corpse removed and thrown into a well, which was close by. One of the neighbours, having occasion to draw water out of the well, saw the body floating and gave the alarm. Now the Police appeared on the scene. Meanwhile, all the inmates, both male and female, took to their heels, which raised further suspicion in the minds of those present. Immediate steps were taken to arrest them. They are now in custody awaiting trial. I regret to say the police have not as yet succeeded in tracing and capturing the perpetrators of the murder of the poor woman referred to in my last.

COPYRIGHT CONVENTION.

The following Order of Her Majesty in Council published in the *London Gazette* of the 2nd December, 1887, is republished for general information in the *Gazette of India* of the 18th February, 1888:—
Extract from the "*London Gazette*" of Friday, 2nd December, 1887.
At the Court at Windsor, the 28th day of November, 1887.

PRESENT.

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

Lord President.

Lord Stanley of Preston.

Secretary Sir Henry Holland, Bart.

Whereas the Convention of which an English translation is set out in the First Schedule to this Order has been concluded between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the Foreign countries named in this Order, with respect to the protection to be given by way of copyright to the authors of literary and artistic works:

And whereas the ratifications of the said Convention were exchanged on the fifth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, between Her Majesty the Queen and the Governments of the Foreign countries following, that is to say:

Belgium; France; Germany; Hayti; Italy; Spain; Switzerland; Tunis;

And whereas Her Majesty in Council is satisfied that the foreign countries named in this Order have made such provisions as it appears to Her Majesty expedient to require for the protection of authors of works first produced in Her Majesty's dominions:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, and by virtue of the authority committed to Her by the International Copyright Acts, 1844 to 1886, doth order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:

1. The Convention as set forth in the First Schedule to this Order, shall, as from the commencement of this Order, have full effect throughout Her Majesty's Dominions, and all persons are enjoined to observe the same.

2. This Order shall extend to the foreign countries following, that is to say:

Belgium; France; Germany; Hayti; Italy; Spain; Switzerland; Tunis;

and the above countries are in this Order referred to as the foreign countries of the Copyright Union, and those foreign countries together with Her Majesty's dominions, are in this Order referred to as the countries of the Copyright Union.

3. The author of a literary or artistic work which, on or after the commencement of this Order is first produced in one of the foreign countries of the Copyright Union shall, subject as in this Order and in the International Copyright Acts, 1844 to 1886, mentioned and in as respects that work throughout Her Majesty's dominions, the same right of copyright, including any right capable of being conferred by an Order in Council under section two or section five of the International Copyright Act, 1844, or under any other enactment, as if the work had been first produced in the United Kingdom, and shall have such right during the same period;

Provided that the author of a literary or artistic work shall not have any greater right or longer term of copyright therein, than

Holloway's Pills—Weakening weather.—The sultry summer days strain the nerves of the feeble and decrepit, and disease may eventuate unless some restorative, such as these purifying Pills, be found to correct the disordering tendency. Holloway's medicine gives potency to the nervous system, which is the source of all vital movements, and presides over every action which maintains the growth and well-being of the body. No one can over estimate the necessity of keeping the nerves well stung, or the ease with which these Pills accomplish that end. They are the most unfailing antidotes to indigestion, irregular circulation, palpitation, sick headache, and costiveness, and have therefore attained the largest sale and highest reputation.

that which he enjoys in the country in which the work is first produced.

The author of any literary or artistic work first produced before the commencement of this Order shall have the rights and remedies to which he is entitled under section six of the International Copyright Act, 1886.

4. The rights conferred by the International Copyright Acts, 1844 to 1886, shall, in the case of a literary or artistic work first produced in one of the foreign countries of the Copyright Union by an author who is not a subject or citizen of any of the said foreign countries, be limited as follows, that is to say, the author shall not be entitled to take legal proceedings in Her Majesty's dominions for protecting any copyright in such work, but the publisher of such work shall, for the purpose of any legal proceedings in Her Majesty's dominions for protecting any copyright in such work, be deemed to be entitled to such copyright as if he were the author, but without prejudice to the rights of such author and publisher as between themselves.

5. A literary or artistic work first produced simultaneously in two or more countries of the Copyright Union shall be deemed for the purpose of copyright to have been first produced in that one of those countries in which the term of copyright in the work is shortest.

6. Section six of the International Copyright Act, 1852, shall not apply to any dramatic piece to which protection is extended by virtue of this Order.

7. The orders mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Order are hereby revoked;

Provided that neither such revocation, nor anything else in this Order, shall prejudicially affect any right acquired or accrued before the commencement of this Order, by virtue of any Order hereby revoked, and any person entitled to such right shall continue entitled thereto, and to the remedies for the same, in like manner as if this Order had not been made.

8. This Order shall be construed as if it formed part of the International Copyright Act, 1886.

9. This Order shall come into operation on the sixth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, which day is in this Order referred to as the commencement of this Order.

And the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury are to give the necessary orders herein accordingly.

C. L. PEEL.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Copyright Convention.

Convention for protecting effectively and in as uniform a manner as possible, the rights of authors over their literary and artistic works. Made on the fifth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India; His Majesty the German Emperor, King of Prussia; His Majesty the King of the Belgians; Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, in the name of His Catholic Majesty the King of Spain; the President of the French Republic; the President of the Republic of Haiti; His Majesty the King of Italy; the Federal Council of the Swiss Confederation; His Highness the Bey of Tunis.

[The following is an English Translation of the Convention, with the omission of the formal beginning and end.]

ARTICLE I.

The Contracting States are constituted into an Union for the protection of the rights of authors over their literary and artistic works.

ARTICLE II.

Authors of any of the countries of the Union, or their lawful representatives, shall enjoy in the other countries for their works, whether published in one of those countries or unpublished, the rights which the respective laws do now or may hereafter grant to natives.

The enjoyment of these rights is subject to the accomplishment of the conditions and formalities prescribed by law in the country of origin of the work, and cannot exceed in the other countries the term of protection granted in the said country of origin.

The country of origin of the work is that in which the work is first published, or if such publication takes place simultaneously in several countries of the Union, that one of them in which the shortest term of protection is granted by law.

For unpublished works the country to which the author belongs is considered the country of origin of the work.

ARTICLE III.

The stipulations of the present Convention apply equally to the publishers of literary and artistic works published in one of the countries of the Union, but of which the authors belong to a country which is not a party to the Union.

ARTICLE IV.

The expression "literary and artistic works" comprehends books, pamphlets, and all other writings; dramatic or dramatico-musical works, musical compositions with or without words; works of design, painting, sculpture, and engraving; lithographs, illustrations, geographical charts, plans, sketches, and plastic works relative to geography, to-

pography, architecture, or science in general; in fact, every production whatsoever in the literary, scientific, or artistic domain which can be published by any mode of impression or reproduction.

ARTICLE V.

Authors of any of the countries of the Union, or their lawful representatives, shall enjoy in the other countries the exclusive right of making or authorising the translation of their works until the expiration of ten years from the publication of the original work in one of the countries of the Union.

For works published in incomplete parts ("livraisons") the period of ten years commences from the date of publication of the last part of the original work.

For works composed of several volumes published at intervals, as well as for bulletins or collections ("cahiers") published by literary or scientific societies, or by private persons, each volume, bulletin, or collection is, with regard to the period of ten years, considered as a separate work.

In the cases provided for by the present Article and for the calculation of the period of the protection, the 31st December of the year in which the work was published is admitted as the date of publication.

ARTICLE VI.

Authorised translations are protected as original works. They consequently enjoy the protection stipulated in Articles II and III as regards their unauthorised reproduction in the countries of the Union.

It is understood that, in the case of a work for which the translating right has fallen into the public domain, the translator cannot oppose the translation of the same work by other writers.

ARTICLE VII.

Articles from newspapers or periodicals published in any of the countries of the Union may be reproduced in original or in translation in the other countries of the Union, unless the authors or publishers have expressly forbidden it. For periodicals it is sufficient if the prohibition is made in a general manner at the beginning of each number of the periodical.

This prohibition cannot in any case apply to articles of political discussion, or to the reproduction of news of the day or current topics.

ARTICLE VIII.

As regards the liberty of extracting portions from literary or artistic works for use in publications destined for educational or scientific purposes, or for chrestomathies, the matter is to be decided by the legislation of the different countries of the Union, or by special arrangements existing or to be concluded between them.

ARTICLE IX.

The stipulations of Article II apply to the public representation of dramatic or dramatico-musical works, whether such works be published or not.

Authors of dramatic or dramatico-musical works, or their lawful representatives, are, during the existence of their exclusive right of

translation, equally protected against the unauthorized public representation of translations of their works.

The stipulations of Article II apply equally to the public performance of unpublished musical works or of published works in which the author has expressly declared on the title page or commencement of the work that he forbids the public performance.

ARTICLE X.

Unauthorized indirect appropriations of a literary or artistic work, of various kinds, such as *adaptations*, *arrangements of music*, &c., are specially included amongst the illicit reproductions, to which the present Convention applies, when they are only the reproduction of a particular work, in the same form, or in another form, with non-essential alterations, additions, or abridgments, so made as not to confer the character of a new original work.

It is agreed that, in the application of the present Article, the tribunals of the various countries of the Union will, if there is occasion, conform themselves to the provisions of their respective laws.

ARTICLE XI.

In order that the authors of works protected by the present Convention shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be considered as such, and be consequently admitted to institute proceedings against pirates before the courts of the various countries of the Union, it will be sufficient that their name be indicated on the work in the accustomed manner.

For anonymous or pseudonymous works, the publisher whose name is indicated on the work is entitled to protect the rights belonging to the author. He is, without other proof, reputed the lawful representative of the anonymous or pseudonymous author.

It is, nevertheless, agreed that the tribunals may, if necessary, require the production of a certificate from the competent authority to the effect that the formalities prescribed by law in the country of origin have been accomplished, as contemplated in Article II.

ARTICLE XII.

Pirated works may be seized on importation into those countries of the Union where the original work enjoys legal protection.

The seizure shall take place conformably to the domestic law of each State.

ARTICLE XIII.

It is understood that the provisions of the present Convention cannot in any way derogate from the right belonging to the Government of each country of the Union to permit, to control, or to prohibit, by measures of domestic legislation or police, the circulation, representation, or exhibition of any works or productions in regard to which the competent authority may find it necessary to exercise that right.

ARTICLE XIV.

Under the reserves and conditions to be determined by common agreement, (See paragraph 4 of Final Protocol.) the present Convention applies to all works which at the moment of its coming into force have not yet fallen into the public domain in the country of origin.

[To be continued.]

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MUNICIPAL ELECTION UNDER SECTION

23 OF ACT IV. (B. C.) OF 1876.

A vacancy having occurred in the representation of Ward No. 18 by the disqualification of Mr. J. G. Apear, owing to his absence from Calcutta for six months consecutively, it is hereby notified that the rate and tax-payers of the aforesaid Ward must forthwith proceed to elect a Commissioner for the aforesaid Ward. As only one Commissioner has to be elected, each person qualified to vote will, under the concluding portion of Section 13, be entitled to only one vote.

The election will be held on Monday, the 27th February 1888, between the hours of 9 A. M. and 6 P. M., at the Municipal Office. At a date not less than 21 days before the day fixed for taking the poll, a voting paper printed in blue ink will be forwarded by post to each of the registered voters.

The voter on receipt of this voting paper may—

- (1) Return it by post duly filled up to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked "voting paper"
- (2) Return it by hand to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked "voting paper"

- (3) Present it himself at the polling station on the day of the poll, or

- (4) Entrust it either open or in a closed cover at his option, to any person whom he may select, for delivery at the polling station on the day of the poll.

Any Voter who, owing to miscarriage of the Post or other mishap, may not have received his voting paper by the 14th day before the poll, may apply at the Municipal Office personally or by agent for a duplicate, putting in a written statement that he has not received any voting paper.

Voting papers on different colored paper from the original and duplicate papers referred to above will be provided at the Municipal Office at the time of the poll, and any voter who has not already voted, or who may wish to cancel his previous vote, may, notwithstanding that he has already filled up an original or a duplicate voting paper, appear at the poll and fill up a paper in the presence of the polling officer, and such vote or votes shall alone be held valid and shall cancel all previous votes.

ROBERT TURNBULL,

Secretary to the Corporation.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter

house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous overmuch, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible..... The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; the *Career of an Indian Princess*, *Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between

1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read:—[Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described:—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—*The Tribune*, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

It may be well-known to all of our readers that Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee the

veteran editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* newspaper, has just published a book describing the four voyages that he made between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah when he had to go and to return from the latter place in the capacity of the minister to its prince. The literature yet produced in the English tongue by our own countrymen is very scanty and any sensible addition to it cannot well escape the attention of the public press. Much greater therefore should be the attention claimed on behalf of a book which comes from the pen of so well-known a writer in the field of Indian journalism as Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee. That gentleman's career as a writer fills nearly the last thirty years, and there has hardly been any subject of public importance during that long period which has not occupied his attention. Master of an inimitable racy style, with a vast store of classical allusions ever ready at the call, and possessing an infinite fund of humour, our author often enlivens every thing that he touches, and his peculiar strength lies in description. We therefore welcome the appearance of this book more especially as the subject is one which to make it interesting, requires a lively colouring and a rich, picturesque and imaginative description. There exist several books of travels written by eminent Englishmen, and every one of these differs perhaps, in their conception and plan of execution. Of these none was more widely read in the course of the last few years than Carlyle's reminiscences of an Irish Journey in 1849. That book is made up of extracts from diaries and the worst features of it are the bitter and caustic personal remarks interspersed throughout the book. However that may suit the polished and fashionable taste of England, in our country it would have been singularly out of place and we are glad that Babu Sambhu Chunder has confined himself to the description of those natural sceneries he passed through, and the means of travel in the distant and little-known regions of East Bengal. That the rivers of Bengal, with their circuitous and entangling courses do enshrine in them a deep spirit of poetry and are of sincere interest to the real man of imagination, is proved by the fact that Sir William Hunter, than whom a more accomplished man of letters never passed the best years of his life in Bengal, should have chosen the subject for his very interesting address at Oxford, the other day. The gentle waves, the gentler ripples, the grassy banks, the ever-entwining courses, the pleasant air, the sceneries on both sides make the rivers of Bengal a genuine thing of interest to those whose eyes are perpetually fed by the artificial gloss and dross of civilization and few could have set perhaps the loveliness of our rivers in better light than our accomplished author. His eloquent sentences, marching in regular order one after another, and embodying in their selves, every minute detail, that can lend to a scene its finest artistic effect, seem to place the reader in the very midst of sceneries described, and the man of leisure who would acquaint himself with the state of things in East Bengal, can hardly resort to a better book. The journeys which are described in this volume are certainly uneventful and though they correspond to facts as they furnish no interesting situation, no critical moments, to the seeker of intellectual excitement and this will no doubt constitute a serious objection to the book on the part of sensational seeking readers. None has however any thing to quarrel with the choice of a subject that any author may choose to write upon and none of the outside public can afford any explanation as to why the author should have preferred one subject to another. We think however there are one or two indications of bad taste. Still we welcome the appearance of this book and trust that it is but the first of a long series of works in writing which our author should spend the matured experience and the literary facility of a well-spent life.—*Young Bengal*, Feb. 2, 1888.

We owe an apology to Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee for the apparent negligence with which we have treated that delightful work of his *Travels in Bengal*. Mr. Mookerjee, as almost every one knows, is one of the best English scholars in India; he writes as gracefully as does the most scholarly Englishman, and ample proof of this is afforded in the pages

of his book before us, which is an interesting narrative of four journeys,—“two trips to Tipperah and two trips back”—accompanied by historical, geographical, cartographical and many other *ital* notes of the lands passed through. We confess we have been but through the first half of the work, and, as we have proposed to review it in two papers, we think our progress sufficient for present purposes. Our author has not, as far as we have read, met with those thrilling adventures we read of—oft with a certain amount of sneaking disbelief—in the average hunter's narratives or traveller's tales; peaceful as the bosom of a still lake were his journeyings in Bengal Proper. He carried no formidable weapons with him, save and except a rusty old gun which, when called into requisition once, refused to go off; and yet withal, few more delightful works of travel in India have we read than the one now under our hands. The charms of true yet eloquent description, the force of observation, the gift of seeing sermons in stones, are all possessed in a great degree by Mr. Mookerjee; and we are pleasantly surprised at the lively and fascinating manner in which he can palm off on the reader the dreariest incident of his trips. Mr. Mookerjee will forgive us if we mention that we think him a very gallant old gentleman with the accent on the second syllable. He has evinced in his little work a weakness for describing the Beauties of Bengal with all the poetic adours of a Strophon. Did we not know enough of the erudite and good old “Babu” editor, we might be inclined to call this particular weakness of his, in Carlyle's language “a Byronism of taste.” Here is how he speaks of a beautiful damsel he saw disporting in the running waters of the beautiful Megna, at Sonargoan:—[Extract.]

But the above excerpt is not the best thing in the book by far. Although every line in it which we have gone over, is a line that we ourselves having written, would not wish to blot out, there are passages in it which surprise us and raise our hearts to a higher level by their eloquence, their beauty and wealth of expression. Running through the pages of *Travels in Bengal* is a vein of quiet humour—that humour which makes us fall in love with writers and tempts us to fly to them for solace in trouble, for a return of serenity in moments of vexation. Mr. Mookerjee has, in his work, added one more to the innumerable anecdotes relative to the fidelity of man's best friend among brutes—the dog. The sentinel duties of a canine phenomenon—Tom by name—are related in glowing terms, but we shall not rob the author of one of his finest plums by transferring it into our columns. This review, as we have already stated, is but the introductory one. In our next, or a little later, we shall take up Mr. Mookerjee's book where we are leaving it off, and make our readers a little more familiar with one of the cleverest native gentlemen of the day and with his interesting book on travels in Baboodom. Mr. Mookerjee, like all his fellow mortals, is human, and he has let us know this in his present work. How, we propose to state only in our second review. Would he however pardon us if we surrender to the temptation of finishing this up with his pretty remarks about Mooning and the Moon. After “the contending gods of the elements” had “left off” one night when our traveler was on the bosom of the Megna, he watched Luna issue from behind the clouds in all her grandeur and radiance. That sight, so delightful to the mind with a leaning towards the aesthetic and poetic, gave vent to the following: [Extract.]

Now, the above will prove a grand surprise to the European readers especially, who may perhaps be unkind enough to doubt that it was written by a “Babu” just as people have doubted that Shakespeare was really the author of *Shakespeare* and Tennyson the author of *Tennyson*. Mr. Mookerjee and we part here, but when work is done and we sit in our cosy arm-chair at home and watch, as is our wont, the blue smoke curl gracefully away from our pipe, we shall dream with waking eyes of the beautiful Megna and the damsels of Bengal, of the moon and the waters, and we know that we shall again take up the *Travels in Bengal* and satisfy our wish of getting to the end of such a pleasant little work.—*The Malabar and Travancore Spectator*, February 4, 1888.

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Womesh Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medical Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30th October, 1886."

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1888.

No. 313

TO KATIE IN IRELAND.

Ah well I remember, one night in December,
As gently I press'd a fair maid to my side,
By a clear mountain stream which in fancy did seem
To echo each love tale I told my fair bride.
As I pleaded my case, her most beautiful face
With the tint of the rose did instantly glow.
"Oh spare the task," cried she, "and why ask?"
"You know that I love you, you know that I do."

With utmost affection and fond adoration,
I gazed on this damsel as we walked along,
With a prayer to kind Heav'n for the blessing me giv'n,
The pride of the mountain, the theme of my song.
Should fortune but smile on me the meanwhile,
Together, thro' life's rugged pathway we'll go,
And I'll "spare her the task," for ne'er more will I ask
If truly she loves me, for I know that I do.

ERIN-GO-BRAGH.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

A FIELD force has been told off for Sikkim. It consists of—

"Staff.—Colonel T. Graham, R. A., commanding; and Captain Travers, 2nd Gurkhas, as Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

Strength of Force.—9-1 Northern Division, R. A., 4 guns; 2nd Battalion Derbyshire Regiment, 200 men; Head-quarters wing of the 13th Bengal Infantry, 400 men; and the 32nd Pioneers, about 700 men. No men are to accompany the force, but those in every way fit for service in a cold climate.

Ammunition.—168 rounds per gun, 200 per rifle, and 100 per carbine.

Supplies and stores.—One month's supplies of Quartermaster's stores to be carried by the troops as far as the base depôt, and provision for one month's supplies to be made.

The transport is to be of mules, supplemented by coolies. A needful extension of the telegraph along the line of movement of the troops will be carried out under orders issued by the Public Works Department.

The base depôt is to be formed at Silligori or some place conveniently near. Three Commissariat officers, two for supply and one for transport, will accompany the force, which, it will thus be seen, will number about 1,400 men.

Orders have since been passed for a Coolie Corps of 2,000 men.

Mr. Paul had reported the Raja of Sikkim quietly friendly but fearful of the Tibetans. The expressed object of the expedition is to turn the Tibetans out of Lingtu, not to invade the Tibetan country. The Viceroy left for Darjeeling yesterday and the Raja of Sikkim has been apprised of this visit, and that a visit from the Raja would be welcome.

The Bengal Chief Secretary Mr. Ware Edgar pioneers the Viceroy.

The Tibetans shew no disposition to fight.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY left for his Chota Nagpore tour yesterday and returns on the 15th.

THE High Court has admitted the appeal of, and released on bail, Ram Kumar Chakravarti, the Police Sub-Inspector, Tangail.

THE Local Government has called for the papers in the case, to examine for itself the complicity of the Sub-Divisional Baboo.

A TELEGRAM in the *Englishman* says that the Madras High Court is to be invested with the appellate jurisdiction of Bangalore and that Coorg is to be reduced to a Madras Collectorate.

THE Doctors have bungled over the ailment of the Crown Prince of Germany, after their wont. They have pronounced the case hopeless, after beguiling for a season with favorable reports since the tracheotomy.

THE Bulgarian Question is still exercising the wits of statesmen. Bulgaria persists in maintaining the present rule. Russia has formally demanded of the Porte to declare to the Bulgarians that the Treaty of Berlin has been violated by the illegality of Prince Ferdinand's rule in Bulgaria. The German and French ambassadors at Constantinople do not oppose the action of their Russian colleague. England, however, is not prepared to coerce the Sultan until they could agree to the future rule of Bulgaria. A Conference of the Powers may be expected.

A LOAN Bill has been introduced in the House of Commons to enable Government to borrow and lend money to Railway Companies whenever that may be found more advantageous than giving a guarantee.

THE House of Commons has empowered the raising of 10½ millions to purchase the Oudh and Rohilkund Railway and of the further 10 millions for the construction, extension and equipment of railways in India through the agency of the various Companies.

SIR CHARLES BERNARD has decided not to return to India. His credit has been wrecked on the new annexation, and he is wise not to venture out of India again but to content himself with the Revenue Secretaryship of the India Office.

A NATIVE Correspondent in Afghanistan sends the following to the *Civil and Military Gazette* :—

"A man applied to the Ameer with a claim of Rs. 60 against another on account of an alleged loan which the borrower refused to pay. The Ameer summoned the defendant before him in his garden at Jellalabad; but he denied that he owed any money to the other. When the appellant was ordered to produce his witnesses he said that he had none 'except the tree under which I gave him the loan.' After long deliberation the Ameer ordered him then to go to the tree and ask it for justice in the case. A little while after he had gone, the Ameer said, inquiringly, 'that the appellant must surely have reached the tree by that time.' Whereupon the defendant, who was present, said, 'Not yet; the tree is too far.' As soon as the Ameer heard this from the defendant, he gave orders quietly in the Turki language to one of his servants to go after the appellant and bring him back; and he ordered the defendant to go and see if the appellant had reached the tree. When the appellant came back, he was also ordered to go and see if the defendant went to the same tree 'under which you say that you gave him the loan;' and it was so. The Ameer of Cabul thereupon ordered the defendant to pay the appellant Rs. 60, because he could not have known the right tree if he had not borrowed the money; and he was fined also for giving false evidence."

MR. MARSDEN has come back to the Police Court as Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Reilly reverting to his own place in the Legislative Council as Assistant-Secretary.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE Home remittances from 1st April 1887 to 25th February 1888 amounted to £13,652,300.

THEY have discovered, in the bowels of the earth, a meteorite in the ferry harbour of Nokjobing in Denmark. The stone is black and weighs about half a ton.

MR. COLMAN MACAULAY has addressed the following letter to the Commissioners of the several Divisions under the Bengal Government :

"I am directed to say that, in connection with a representation made for the removal of the name of a Municipality from Schedule II of Act III (B.C.) of 1884, Sir Stuart Bayley has had under consideration the whole question of the powers conferred on municipal bodies of selecting their own Chairmen. His Honour does not consider it at present necessary to remove from the second schedule the name of any Municipality included in it; but, on the other hand, he will be prepared experimentally to appoint, under section 23, any Chairman who may be nominated by the Commissioners of any Municipality in your Division named in the second schedule of the Act. I am to request that the Commissioners of Municipalities named in the second schedule, in cases where a Chairman has not yet been appointed, may be at once invited to make their nominations."

THE Gangaputras and the Ghatias of Benares have had a free fight. They were always quarreling over their respective shares of the offerings from pilgrims on the occasion of fairs and religious gatherings. The parties had been to Court to file their complaints immediately after a fight. The ill feeling revived as soon as they came out of Court, and they indulged in a riot. Four Ghatias were attacked in a gharry, the carriage broken and they severely assaulted. O for a Gubbins!

A WRITER in the *Bombay Times of India* confirms us :—

"When the Nawab of Moorshedabad was passing through that city, fourteen or fifteen years ago, he sent six or seven dressing-gowns to be lined with fur. Just as he was starting for London, a bill was put into his hand for £6,000. He had not so much cash, and said he would settle in London. This case went into court, and London furriers gave evidence that, if these furs were real, or what they were represented to be, they would be worth that money, but they were not, and their value was assessed at one-fourth, or £1,500, which was awarded. To ask four times as much as a thing is worth is 'pretty stiff' even when a purchaser is a Native Prince. Incredulous as it may seem, the Gaekwar's bill was more than twenty-five times as large as it should have been, and yet French law lends itself to support such monstrous and disreputable claims."

HERR MORITZ LIEFMAN, who has lately been lecturing at Dusseldorf, brings into a focus the public liabilities of the principal states. He gives—

"The total public debt of Germany (47,000,000 inhabitants), including railway debt, at £400,000,000 or £8. 10s. per head of population; that of France, without her colonies (38,000,000 inhabitants), £1,500,000,000 or £39. 10s. per head; England without her colonies (37,000,300 inhabitants), £750,000,000, or £20 per head; Austria and Hungary (41,000,000 inhabitants), £450,000,000 or £11 per head; Italy (30,000,000 inhabitants), £450,000,000 or £8. 10s. per head of population. Annual interest paid by Germany amounts to £15,000,000 or 6s. per head of population; by Italy, £21,500,000 or 14s. per head; by Austria and Hungary, £23,000,000 or 11s. per head; by England, £23,500,000 or 13s. per head; by Russia, between £30,000,000 and £35,000,000 or 8s. per head; by France £51,000,000 or £1. 7s. per head of population."

SIR SAVALAY RAMASAMY MOODELLIAR of Madras is again to the fore with Rs. 30,000 for public charity. His son has just been put to school, and that occasion—Vidyarambham—is to be celebrated with the erection of Choultry or rest houses for travellers, near the termini of the Madras and South Indian Railway. We hope the young hopeful will prove himself worthy of the care and money expended on him.

HERE is a story of an American forger :—

"A Yankee, named Cooper, long known on both sides of the Atlantic as 'the King of the Forgers,' was arrested lately at Fontainebleau. The man's career has been one of prolonged and gigantic swindling. In the Civil War he distinguished himself as a sailor, and at its close secured a good position in the Navy Department at Washington. He was very skilful in imitating handwriting, and took advantage of his position to forge orders from paymasters for 175,000 dols. On this sum he married, and was arrested on the day of his honeymoon. After a five years' incarceration, he was liberated, to find that his marriage had been annulled. He then took to local preaching in New Orleans, and married a well-to-do widow. He has since secured large sums from various quarters by ingenious devices. He had 18,000 dols. from the Bank of Mobile, defrauded his employer, into whose service he got by means of forged introductions, of 82,000 dols., came to England, and amongst other forgeries, obtained £4,000 from Glyn, Mills, and Co., and last year £3,000 from the London and Westminster Bank. It is on account of the last that he has been captured."

HER Majesty has sent Lady Mackenzie an Indian shawl with an autograph letter, saying, "The service your husband renders my son-in-law separates him often from you, and in order to show how highly I value the sacrifice he makes for us I send you this token of my regard."

Truth gives the cost to date of publishing and compiling the reports of the Challenger expedition, at over £200,000.

WE read in the *Dacca Gazette* :—

"There is a somewhat curious case of extortion pending before the Moonshigunj Criminal Court. One Sadhoo Churan Koorey, a money-lender of Nagorkosba, Thanah Munshigunge, went in Pous last to Bhoberchor, a village some 16 miles off from the station, to collect his dues from the debtors residing there. It appeared that he had a mistress with him and somehow or other they were it is alleged both taken to the local Zamindary Katchery, belonging to the Baliahy Baboos, where, according to the complainant the Koorey's statement, the Naib and the manager extorted Rs. 50 from him and robbed him of his shawl, shoes and hose of which the shoes only were recovered, and the woman was taken possession of by the manager. Lately a woman was brought before the Court whom the defence tried to prove to mistress in question, while the prosecution repudiates the fact saying that her name was Bidhoo and she was a resident of Calcutta, while this woman according to her own deposition is a native of Dacca and her name is Bama."

OUR retort upon the *Amrita Bazar* of misnomery put the veteran controversialist on his mettle, but he thus escapes the dilemma and deals damnation round the land—of the enemy :—

"Why, where is the puzzle? *Amrita* means ambrosia. The *Patrika* is like a bazar where nectar is sold. Of course there are boors who do not like the divine drink dealt out to them, but then the other meaning of *Amrita* is aconite."

That is capital! though of course from the enemy's point, it is open to the remark of aggravation of the misnomer.

MR. P. C. Higgins, Hony. Treasurer, Eduljee Framjee Albless Leper Home, Bombay, has thankfully received the following donations :—

"The Maharajah Bahadoor of Hathwa, Rs. 500; H. H. the Maharajah of Bhavnagar, G. C. S. I., Rs. 200; the Maharajah of Durbhunga, K. C. I. E., Rs. 100; His Highness the Maharajah of Cochin, K. C. S. I., Rs. 100; the Maharani of Balrampur Rs. 100; His Highness the Rajah of Faridkot Rs. 50; The Hon'ble Raja G. N. Gajpati Rao of Vizagapatam Rs. 50; Sirdar Khan Bahadoor Puddumjee Pestonjee of Poona Rs. 50; Maneckjee Cowasjee, Esquire, of Damaun Rs. 25; the Raja of Kila Durpan, Orissa, Rs. 25."

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer lately delivered a striking address as Lord Rector of Glasgow University :—

"Mr. Goschen's object was to plead, 'not for any particular branch of knowledge, but for a temper, an intellectual habit, an attitude of mind which is applicable to every kind of study and indeed to every sort of work.' In other words, he meant the habit of intellectual interest in all that is studied, learnt, or done. Mr. Goschen took a very forcible illustration of his text from the growing employment of German clerks in England. He made the following pointed remarks :—'There is a danger in thinking that it is only knowledge that is lacking—that it is only in width of information that the foreigner is superior. He knows more, no doubt; but that is not the root of the matter. The root of the matter is that he cares more about his work; that, as a rule, he takes an interest in it apart from its results in money, which, for whatever reason, the Englishman has not hitherto learnt sufficiently to take.' Mr. Goschen draws the contrast between the German clerk and the English one in that the former's work presents to him a field which excites his interest and fills him with an ambition for wider knowledge, while the latter looks on his work as dull and dry. The following words we quote are full of meaning :—'I have myself seen German senior clerks listening to some discussion on a complicated question of commercial law, not with the bored faces of men who keep their eye upon the clock, anxious only to know when the hour of release will strike, but with the keen interest of experts who delight in the analysis of an intellectual problem.' Scotchmen, says Mr. Goschen, are more remarkably successful in the practical work of life simply because they take a more intellectual interest in their work than the average Englishman. The closing words of burning eloquence from Mr. Goschen are well worth reproduction. 'But now,' he said, 'when looking around at the rapid advance of our rivals, we see that start of ours, which once seemed so enormous, growing dangerously less, when a nation, to whom work is a pride and a pleasure, appears with giant strides to be gaining on our steps, the people of Great Britain may perhaps more readily be induced to bestir themselves to add to their great natural capacities, to their natural and acquired advantages, and to the self-confidence of their ancient prestige, some of that power which the passion for mental labour has conferred on their most formidable rivals, and to resolve that, in school and in University, in bank and in warehouse, in factory and in arsenal, a larger share of time and credit, and influence and authority, shall be assigned to intellectual effort and intellectual interest.'"

FROM next April the Government *Telegraph Gazette* will be issued six times or twice more than at present, each issue summarising the contents of the previous one.

DURING the month of February 1888, Forty-three thousand six hundred and eighty-nine persons visited the Indian Museum. Of natives, there were 31,661 males and 10,475 females, and of Europeans, 1,138 males and 415 females. The daily average number of visitors for the 21 days, on which the Museum was open to the general public, was 2,080.

MR. GRIESBACK, the geological Survey officer who has entered the service of the Amir, arrived at Jalalabad on the 10th instant.—Press Commissioner.

THE *Bombay Gazette* writes :—

"One of the most sensational cases in the annals of crime was, after a hearing extending over five days, brought to a close at the Criminal Sessions of the Bombay High Court on Saturday. It was known as the Parel murder case, and was remarkable both on account of the unusual atrocity of the crime and of the consummate skill with which the city police discovered the various links in the chain of evidence which brought the murderer to justice. A Pathan, not being able to live harmoniously with his wife, sought to end his troubles by murdering her, and, packing the mutilated remains in a box, removed it, with the assistance of an accomplice, to the flats at Parel, after which, he took a passage for Aden, intending to make the pilgrimage to Mecca. The box, with its ghastly contents, was discovered by the police, and the murderer and his victim being comparatively unknown in Bombay, it required all the ingenuity of the detectives to discover the perpetrator of the foul deed. The box alone afforded a clue, and upon this, slender though it seemed, the police worked with such remarkable skill and ingenuity, that they succeeded not only in discovering the murderer, but in effecting his capture at Aden. That the police, upon so slender a clue, should be able to discover the perpetrator of a murder so cunningly conceived and so daringly executed, reflects the greatest credit upon their detective capacity. It has frequently been said that the Indian police are deficient in the power of unravelling the mysteries of a great crime. How undeserved is the reproach is shown by the facts which have been brought to light in the present trial."

The Bombay Police are not yet, we believe, within a measurable distance of perfection. They proved themselves frail brethren of the baton in the persecution of Mulhar Rao Gaekwar. Akbar Ali, who was charged with the success of the enterprise, was a genuine chip of the block—of the Police policey. For all that, the Ducks are a respectable and ingenious Force, far more so than the cackling geese of the Ditch. They do not spare depredators, and they do not bully those who press for inquiry. They even catch murderers. Who that has been in Bengal for the last thirty years from the reign of Wauchope and Younan, does not know how hard it is to be over inquisitive into the secrets of the powerful or desperate men who usually commit crimes of violence. The Bombaywallas are fool hardy enough, and no wonder if they succeed.

At a complimentary dinner at Manchester, Mr. George Routledge recounted the history of publishing during the last 50 years. He told his hearers

"how he began at Carlisle when parcels came by a mail-coach from London; how 30,000 copies of the 'Coleen Bawn' were sold during the performance at the Adelphi, 1000,000 copies Grant's 'Romance of war,' how in 1852 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' sold at the rate of 10,000 copies a day; how he paid a royalty of 2l. a copy on 'Queechy' and sold 60,000; how in 1853 he engaged with the late Lord Lytton 'to pay him a sum of £20,000 for a term of ten years,' and how 'the agreement was carried out to the letter; how the firm then purchased from the present Lord Lytton 'all the copyrights and plant. Mr. Routledge said: 'We have for this author's works nearly paid the sum of £40,000.' He spent £1,000 upon the illustrations of an edition of Longfellow's poetical work and gave £1,000 to Mr. Howard Staunton for editing an edition of Shakespeare, the plant of work costing £10,000. He sold 10,000 copies of Rarey's 'Horse Taming,' and appears by so doing to have spoiled Rarey's ten-guinea lectures. The copy was brought from New York by a gentleman, who got £326 for his trip. Mr. Routledge gave Longfellow £1,000 for his 'New England Tragedies' and £500 for his 'Dante.' In conclusion, Mr. Routledge said, 'For fifty years I can say I have published 100 books each year, or two a week.'"

What a contrast between the West and the East! Here in India literature is a drug in the market. There is not yet a sufficient reading class, and those who can read prefer to starve their minds to being out of pocket of their rupees. The rich are not learned enough and have got to reserve all their resources for compliments to the powers that be and other taxes demi-official. The Government, which has ever in Oriental countries been the great patrons of the learned, has nothing for Pandits beyond the charmed circle of officocracy, unless perhaps

they are pimps and sycophants as well. We are watching with interest the fate of two applications in respect of two colossal undertakings.

THE following is going the round of the papers :—

"Official Presidential income in America amounts to £10,000 per annum; we remember when it used to be 25,000. Germany's Emperor receives no income at all in that capacity, though a sum is placed at his disposal for granting pensions and gratuities. As King of Prussia, his Majesty's revenues amount to £1,678 per diem, out of which all Royal Princes who claim to be State pensioners have to be supported. A President of the French Republic receives about £48,000 per annum. Our Queen's income, by the Civil List, is £409,000 per annum."

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

REUTER wires that M. Wilson has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment and a fine of three thousand francs, and five years' deprivation of civil rights.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Scoble has revived the Bill for the abolition of the barbarity—imprisonment for debt. His predecessor in office had introduced the measure in Council, but the opposition was too great and he seemed almost paralysed. Mr. Ilbert was the burnt child among our Senators. He had already been visited with ruthless fury for attempting reform in another direction. Mr. Scoble had no such experiences and has no such fears. He is free to initiate a new policy, and we wish he could do away with the barbarity altogether. Friday week, he presented the Report of the Select Committee and explained the provisions recommended. The Committee of ten are unanimous with the exception of one on a fractional point. The Bill is not the less welcome that it is not thorough. We hail the instalment, for it is a step in advance. The Bill rescues that freedom to women which had been taken away by a too-lawyerly Chief Justice and an unchivalrous Legislature. The Bill therefore only restores a right to women in India. To the other gender, it grants some concession. A man can only be sent to jail in execution of decree, not at the option of the creditor, but at the discretion of the Judge. The principle underlying the Bill is that poverty or inability to pay a debt is not to be visited with loss of freedom and disgrace of confinement in jail. He is also to be saved that ignominy if he is not in a state of health for that discipline. The Bill further provides for his release from the bondage if he is attacked with any infectious or contagious disease or suffers from any serious illness. The Bill in its entirety will be found elsewhere.

Sir Charles Elliott, although not an abolitionist, offered some suggestions towards reform. But he appeared on the scene too late and these could not be incorporated in the Bill but have been reserved for the next amendment of the Civil Procedure Code.

As our grave and reverend seigniors may have, between legislation and lawtennis, little leisure or disposition to stray into the paths of light literature, we venture to lay at their service an American piece. They are doubtless familiar with musty blue-books and mustier jurisconsults. The following will show how non-professional thinkers—the true men of light and leading—regard the survival of Roman barbarism :

THE PRISONER FOR DEBT.

Look on him!—through his dungeon grate

Feebly and cold, the morning light
Comes stealing round him, dim and late,
As if it loathed the sight.

Reclining on his strawy bed,
His hand upholds his drooping head,—
His bloodless cheek is seamed and hard,
Unshorn his gray, neglected beard;
And o'er his bony fingers flow
His long, dishevelled locks of snow.

No grateful fire before him glows,
And yet the winter's breath is chill;
And o'er his half-clad person goes
The frequent ague thrill!

Silent, save ever and anon,
A sound, half murmur and half groan,
Forces apart the painful grip
Of the old sufferer's bearded lip;
O sad and crushing is the fate
Of old age chained and desolate!

Just God ! why lies that old man there ?

A murderer shares his prison bed,
Whose eyeballs, through his horrid hair,
Gleam on him, fierce and red :

And the rude oath and heartless jeer
Fall ever on his loathing ear,

And, or in wakefulness or sleep,
Nerve, flesh, and pulses thrill and creep
Whene'er that ruffian's tossing limb,
Crimson with murder, touches him !

What has the gray-haired prisoner done ?

Has murder stained his hands with gore ?
Not so ; his crime's a fouler one ;

GOD MADE THE OLD MAN POOR !

For this he shares a felon's cell,—
The fittest earthly type of hell !
For this, the boon for which he poured
His young blood on the invader's sword,
And counted light the fearful cost,—
His blood-gained liberty is lost !

And so, for such a place of rest,
Old prisoner, dropped thy blood as rain
On Concord's field, and Bunker's crest,
And Saratoga's plain ?
Look forth, thou man of many scars,
Through thy dim dungeon's iron bars ;
It must be joy, in sooth, to see
Yon monument upreared to thee,—
Piled granite and a prison cell, —
The land repays thy service well !

Go ring the bells and fire the guns,
And fling the starry banner out ;
Shout " Freedom ! " till your lisping ones
Give back their cradle-shout ;
Let boastful eloquence declaim
Of honour, liberty, and fame ;
Still let the poet's strain be heard,
With glory for each second word,
And everything with breath agree
To praise " our glorious liberty ! "

But when the patron cannon jars,
That prison's cold and gloomy wall,
And through its grates the stripes and stars
Rise on the wind and fall, —
Think ye that prisoner's aged ear
Rejoices in the general cheer !
Think ye his dim and failing eye
Is kindled at your pageantry ?
Sorrowing of soul, and chained of limb,
What is your carnival to him ?

Down with the LAW that binds him thus !
Unworthy freemen, let it find
No refuge from the withering curse
Of God and human kind !

Open the prison's living tomb,
And usher from its brooding gloom
The victims of your savage code
To the free sun and air of God ;
No longer dare as crime to brand
The chastening of the Almighty's hand.

THE Maharaja of Mysore, during his grand Indian tour, was at Lucknow invited by a deputation of the Talooqdars, headed by Raja Rudra Pratap Sah of Dearsa, to a dinner and *Natch*. The young Prince thankfully declined the offer on the ground that arrangements had already been made for his immediate departure. His Highness concluded with expressing a hope that they might some day come to Mysore. The wily Dravidian ! He does not eat of their hands, but he has no objection to their eating of his—is that it ? That is the Hindu instinct, beyond question. It is enough that we preserve our own caste—

we have no insuperable objection to others compromising themselves if they are so minded.

The news of the deputation we gather from the Lucknow *Advocate*. We wish our young contemporary had given us particulars of the banquet proposed. It would be interesting even now to know the arrangements made or contemplated. Was it to be a *kutchra* or *puke* dinner ? Were the Lord of Mahishasoor and the Barons of Oudh to sit together in the same *poonkti* to eat ? Was there to have been any division of *chowkas* ? And who were to have cooked and who served ? What was the bill of fare fixed ! We hardly think an eating was seriously expected. Hence we suppose the offer was made at the last moment, when probably it was known that the Maharaja had made arrangements to leave town the following day.

HERE is a Cuttack telegram—which almost takes away our breath :—

"For Jubilee telegram from Orissa People's Association sent her gracious Majesty through Private Secretary on 18th June, at expense Rs. 262, for reply forty-two, India Government's circular of ^{18th} not prevent work of 18th motioned in the House of Commons for reply refund of money. Recently at residence of Baboo Denonath Banerjee, a meeting was held for prevention of killing cows. Baboo Denonath spoke as follows : ' In 1875 I memorialized Government for introduction of a detective system for checking bribery and also a separate printed memorial signed by respectable people of Cuttack, Balasore, Pooree, Khurda, Kendrapara, Jajpore, Bhudruck was submitted to Government, and I failed in both. We cannot get assistance from Government because they have sixty thousand European soldiers, and at the rate of one pound beef each, it will require eight hundred maunds which tantamount to killing five hundred cows only for that purpose daily, and it is impossible that Government will make them vegetarians. On the other hand, when the poor cannot support their old parents for want, it is impossible they will support old cows for fear of Hindu society. We shall have work practically to protect old cows.' A Committee was formed with Baboo Dwarikanath Chuckerburty president, and Rudhabinode Bose and Nalitmohun Chuckerburty Secretaries."

We early conceived a respect for Baboo Deno Nath Banerjee for his courage and for some originality, and we never hesitated to express our opinion. But these are qualities which, unless tempered by discretion and modesty, are apt to be dangerous all round. We hoped he might prove a foil to powerful wrong-doers, official and private, and that he would have friends to keep his exuberance in check. But he is going on at a rattling rate. He seems emulous of being a Parnell, but Parnell is no mere firebrand nor a vulgar blustering demagogue, but a cool unimpassioned leader, with perfect self-command and the circumspection of a courtier and the subtlety and readiness of a born lawyer. This Banerjee is not likely to show the white feather at the first blush of difficulty like our patriots nearer home, and we honor him for that. But he is developing a bad form of ambition. He is playing with dangerous instruments. He might be of great use as a ventilator of genuine local grievances, but imperial politics is not his *forte*, and Cuttack is not the proper Head-quarters for it. If he is convinced of his mission, he should remove to the metropolis, where we could better take care of him. His vapouring in the heart of Orissa may mean nothing, but it is spoiling the boys—young and old. Worst of all, it is these that are provoking the angry reprisals of the Europeans and the official classes.

MACAULIFFE and Browne have made up their differences. After having blackguarded each other without stint in every form, they suddenly discover their mistake, apologize to one another, and agree to forgive and forget. Each has withdrawn his charges against the other. Rahiman *alias* Buri has also retired from her suit against Macauliffe for increased maintenance to their illegitimate children. The compromise comes rather late—for character. The whole transformation scene seems the result of external pressure. We suspect Mr. Lyall has thus saved the character of his administration by removing the dirty linen from the washtub in the street.

"THE Gipsy and his deeds"—such is the heading of a Police report in an English paper of the 16th January last. What sort of deeds were these, the reader fancies ? He doubtless thinks of typical Zincali habits and feats, but he is out in his imaginings. The deeds in question are veritable deeds in black and white—documentary proofs of title

to real property. It is certainly strange to have a Gipsy in such a connection. The more so as the deeds in question are the Gipsy's not by dexterity of hand but by right of law. It is a strange Gipsy, one would think, but our modern progress has percolated in all directions and even penetrated to the depths of the social irreconcilables. There seems to have been a revolution in the Zingali clan. The typical Gipsy of former experience probably no longer exists. Here is quite a respectable Gipsy family come before the magistrate of West Ham to settle a dispute over the title-deeds of some freehold property purchased 25 years ago at Little Topham, Essex, consisting of four houses and freehold land and gardens adjoining. Their behaviour in court and entire conduct of the case, were exemplary. They were not at all litigiously inclined, there was not the slightest trace of that unnatural malice which seems to be usually generated in the disputes between near connections among the respectable classes. They seem to have resorted to the arbitrament of the magistrate as the sovereign's representative, having themselves failed to make up their differences. The law itself fell short of the morality of these poor ignorant and despised people. The court degraded an ordinary family quarrel into a disreputable case of theft. It is obvious from the circumstances that neither side in the quarrel looked upon the matter in that serious light. The father Job Hedges simply complained of the abstraction from under his pillow of his deeds by his son in league with the young fellow's wife. That is all. It was farthest from his idea to charge his son with stealing, and his wife with abetting. But the stiff British law makes no such distinctions. It is all theft and no mistake, and, if motive be wanting, motive is to be presumed. The son made an honorable defence. He had never denied his part. When his father first missed his papers and asked his sons, George (the present prisoner) said "Oh father, they are all right; go to bed." So in court he admitted having possession of the deeds and expressed his readiness to give them up, explaining the circumstances under which he came to seize them. In fact, he claimed the property, his mother having supplied the money for his benefit. The complainant admitted that part of the purchase money came from her. In the end, the prisoner's wife came into the Court with a bag containing the deeds, and those that were necessary for the complainant to draw his rents were made over to him. The whole Gipsy party then left court together like a happy family that they are.

They are Gipsies for all that. The father could not give the date or day of his loss, saying he is no scholar; he only remembered it was within a day or two of Good Friday. The most characteristic point is their mode of life. Though owning (for them) considerable house property, they are yet nomads still. They live in caravans in which they move about the country, plying their trade, the father in his and the son in another. Their calling may be inferred from the fact that the prisoner is described as a licensed hawk. Probably, to itinerant or peripatetic peddling, they add, as in our country, the practice of palmistry and other forms of fortune-telling as well as vending of charms and specifics. We are sure they are now far too good to be addicted to child-stealing.

We see that they bear Scriptural names. The father is Job and one of the sons is Jeremiah. It is satisfactory to know with this Puritan proclivity for Old Testament nomenclature, they possess a share of Puritan virtue.

These English Gypsies are probably the same as the Bedias and Nuts of India. Many of their words are Hindustani, others seem to be Turanian or Dravidian. Certainly, they come from the East, like the Jews. Like the Hebrews too, they have left permanent traces in the lands of their adoption and on the peoples among whom they have been cast. They have suffered much—more than the Jews. Despised as Heathens, suspected and repressed, they have been degraded to the lowest outlaws. They have survived the wrongs of thousands of years. And now they are a respectable people, excursive but neither barbarous nor reprobate, with enough of the native amiability of their primeval home in the Far East.

THE Americans are go-ahead and no mistake—even in philology. Where John Bull makes a speech—or speechifies as they would rather say over the water—Cousin Jonathan "orates." In fact, they are all, all "orators" on the other side of the Atlantic. And now they have the feminine gender of the article—or rather the noun substantive. We have now reported the speech of what is termed a Yankee "bratress"—a sort of tigress of the platform apparently. She has given the

coup de grace to the agitation in favour of the Bloomer uniform. Said she:—

"I reject the trousers with contempt and scorn. Men cut a sufficiently ridiculous figure in them themselves. The truth is, they don't like their own costume, and are envious of our laces, jewellery, frills, and dresses. Trousers, forsooth, trousers! Shake not the ridiculous garment at me. No; so long as we have our silks, satins, and shawls, we will repudiate your absurd bifurcated unwhisperables. Look at your swallowtailed coats, stove-pipe hats; and you wear your hair so short, some of you, that you look precious like monkeys; and I don't wonder that one of your numbers has written a book showing that animal to be the father of his race."

There! that is feminine and no mistake! Feminine with all the vengeance of Eve for her poor cat's-paw of a deluded lord! who has brought all his miseries on himself and his by tasting, in subterfuge to the policy and wishes of his fair charmer, of the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge (as he has always gone to school for her benefit)—on the principle, obviously, that

Forgiveness to the injured doth belong,

They never pardon who have done the wrong!

There is, in that passage, all the sweep of woman's logic and all the concentration of woman's scorn for her meek subjects! There is no mercy for friend or foe. In one short breath are dished Swinburne and Oscar Wilde, Mill and Huxley, Darwin and the Evolutionists! while the English language is enriched with a new vocable into the bargain, by way of a substitute for the weak term of male philology.

In fact, the whole is a characteristic ebullition—in humble imitation of the oratress' phrase, "precious like" woman. We are no advocates of the "bifurcated unwhisperables," and we are at one with her in her remark that men cut a sufficiently ridiculous figure in these trappings. We have always regarded them as a very unbecoming piece of wearing, wanting in grace and without even the initial recommendation of decency. Yet it must be confessed that, as between the two sexes, they are better suited to women, specially the unmarried. Perhaps they might with advantage be made the distinction of spinsterhood. But here comes a lady in a great rage to reject them *in toto* with contempt and scorn. Be it so! The lady is alarmed at the prospect of her sex being compelled to abandon all their glorious gewgaws in favor of all the hideousness of male apparel in the West. What lady of spirit will consent to share the livery of waiters! But the adoption of trousers does not necessarily mean the adoption of the tailcoat or the chimney pot, or the denial of silks and laces and necklaces and bracelets and brooches. The innovation may be restricted to the nether garments, and even there restricted to the form. These may be of silk, if preferred. Before the oratress' next appearance on the platform, she should make for herself a pair of Benares cloth of gold loose drawers or Agra silk *gooloadan* close-fitting *pyjamas*, and try herself in them before the glass. The genius of Ind may yet reconcile her to the hated unwhisperables. The earth—of Asia—hath its secrets as the sea hath, undreamed of in the West.

THERE is an old Bengali story—not more veracious than inter-racial jokes usually are—of an Ooriah Raja having utilised a present of a pair of gold-embroidered slippers, for a head-dress. We are reminded of it by the use which the Sultan of Morocco has found for the bicycle presented him about a couple of years ago by France. During His Majesty's late illness, the Harem had been a scene of confusion from the quarrels and conflicts of the Begums. On his recovery, the Sultan enquired into the matter and proceeded to pass sentence on the offenders. Each was compelled to ride the infernal machine of the Nazarene through the grounds of the Seraglio and to repeat the process according to the guilt of the condemned. Some of the older wives who had offended most had, in consequence, more than a dozen falls.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Some occupations tend to the development of certain diseases, and those who toil as miners are peculiarly liable to rheumatism, lumbago, and other allied complaints. In the goldfields and copper mines Holloway's remedies have been largely patronized by the workers to their very great advantage, and they can be confidently recommended as invaluable remedies for inward congestions, spasms and cramps in the bowels, and all those conditions of the lungs and liver to which those who work underground or in impure atmospheres are so peculiarly liable. For cuts, bruises, sprains and stiffened joints, the action of Holloway's Ointment is eminently healing and soothing, and a supply should always be at hand in case of need.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1888.

ZEMINDARI ZOOLUM.

THE *Englishman* wrote on the 23rd February :—

"One of the ablest native papers in India, *Reis and Rayyet*, has a long article in a recent issue on 'Zemindari Zoolum,' and denounces a zemindar in the district of Howrah because he sues his tenants by hundreds as every *kist* falls due. We are not concerned to defend the zemindar, who is no doubt well able to take care of himself; but the local judicial officers also come in for a share of the writer's wrath. It is said that the unscrupulousness of the landlord is rendered possible by their carelessness and indifference. But a Munsiff is bound to accept a tenant's deposit of rent, and before he can set off the deposit in a suit for arrears of rent brought by the landlord, he must be satisfied that the tenant, before depositing, actually tendered his rent at the village Cutcherry. This evidence is required absolutely by the law, and yet, because the Munsiffs will not suffer the law to be a dead letter, they are called 'Howrah Gamatiels,' 'sapient and inexorable Judges,' and otherwise alluded to in terms of reprobation. The fact is that, when there is a long-standing dispute or bad blood between a zemindar and his tenants, the latter never go through the necessary preliminary of tendering their rents, but rush at once and deposit them in the Civil Court. The zemindar is then bound to sue within a certain time, or he may lose his rent altogether. If a hundred tenants combine and deposit their rents, the unfortunate landlord has no option but to file a hundred suits. Of course both parties are put to additional expense and annoyance by these proceedings, but there can be no doubt that the rayyets are often to blame. Zemindars' agents do not find it such an easy job to collect their rents that they will refuse to receive them when tendered. The writer shows himself to be a veritable partisan when he finds fault with the Courts for decreeing claims, though the landlord's plaint has been instituted before the deposit was made. A sifting inquiry is asked for, and a suggestion is made that the zemindar should be prosecuted. 'Averse as we constitutionally are,' says the writer, 'to see civil proceedings terminate criminally, there are cases in which we feel bound to surrender our feelings.' We should like to hear the other side of the question before condemning 'these luminaries of the law.'"

By all means let the other side be told, though we doubt whether there is anything remaining after the special demurrer urged in behalf of both the landlord and the Court. We must protest against imputation of partizanship, however. It is a strange charge to come from the *Englishman* which has not often any tears to spare for the sorrows of either Baboo Zemindars or Baboo Judges. Shall we retort,

All looks yellow to the jaundiced eye?

We had imagined that by this our conduct at several trying junctures had placed us, in the opinion of all candid observers, above such a reproach. We owe allegiance to no clique or party or class, nor do we appeal to the passions of the mob of readers, native or European. Our information may be defective, though we take pains to secure accuracy; our opinions may be wrong, but they are honestly formed. Hence we are always open to correction and always prepared to make honorable amends to those whom we may happen unwittingly to wrong. Even so in the present case. Zeal may have colored the language of the article, but *Reis and Rayyet* has no interest in the matter but that of truth and justice, and we believe the article is not fairly chargeable with unworthy treatment of the question. Have we tried to take the objective by storm? Have we relied on one-sided statement or mere plausibility of reasoning? Having said our say, we have called for an inquiry by Government—a sifting inquiry—no perfunctory report. Our contemporary, to do it justice, admits this. Yet, strangely enough, it does not see how its suggestion of partizanship is negatived by the fact.

We are not habitually hostile to the Zemindari interest. A long course of study and observation has taught us to regard the Permanent Settlement as one of the dearest institutions in the present stage of our political and social evolution. During the long controversy on the Bengal Rent Bill, without partizanship, and without boring the public every week with everlasting discussion, we

gave unwavering support to all the legitimate claims and just grievances of the landlords. And we did so without fee, declining handsome offers. We have no wish to pose as virtuous overmuch, and do not pretend to judge those who received more or less adequate honorariums for in some cases splendid, and in all excellent, service. We only mention the fact.

Nor do we bear any grudge to individual Zemindars in our neighbourhood or elsewhere. It is not many years since, a brother of the present Zemindar whose doings are under notice, having been in trouble with his tenantry in the neighbourhood of the present petitioners, was denounced by Government. In fact, the whole family in all its branches has a bad notoriety which may prevent fairplay towards any stray member of the clan who may happen to be decent-lived. On that occasion, however, as so^{oai} expense we were convinced that, in the particular matter at any rate, the Zemindar had been more sinned against than sinning, we came forward in his defence and succeeded in saving him.

As for the warmth of our language, we have no reason to be ashamed of it. Believing in the facts, what other language was it possible for us to use? How in the face of such an oppression could a writer be more tame? It is all very well for a foreigner to measure words, but a son of the soil who hears with his own ear, in his own vernacular, a tale of persecution of a village extending through eighteen long years, may be pardoned a lapse towards the weakness of humanity. If there has been any indication of it, however, it has been cured by the unmistakable call for inquiry.

The friends of the munsiffs who have put up the *Englishman* have hardly been well-advised. The *Englishman* itself has called for the other side of the matter before condemning the "luminaries of the law." But we have been waiting ever since the 23rd February without seeing any particular vindication. How long is our contemporary prepared to wait for it, before joining in the chorus? The press ought not to be employed lightly, either for allegation or contradiction. And then the said friends or satellites of luminaries ought to know that a newspaper in attack does not spend all its resources or use all its armoury of facts. *Verb. sap.*

Our contemporary shows extraordinary simplicity. "No doubt," we are told, "the rayyets are often to blame." Perhaps, but can the writer be ignorant that there are Zemindars who make a business of harrassing their tenantry? And does he not know even his own friends? The writer goes on—"Zemindars' agents do not find it such an easy job to collect their rents that they will refuse to receive them when tendered." We will not call it a veritable partizan argument, but it is an orthodox Zemindary view. It may be true in many cases, it may be true even in most. Still there remains room for considerable exception. Half the everlasting tenant difficulty in Bengal would be over if tenants did not combine to resist, or if landlords obstinately did not refuse any relations with the tenantry except through the Courts. It is the existence of such Zemindars that has introduced into the law the provision which permits tenants to deposit rent in Court. The *Englishman* cannot believe that Zemindars' agents will refuse rent when tendered. Yet it is the notorious practice of certain Zemindars not to receive rent. They would be glad to receive it at their demand, certainly, but not at the old or established rate. It is the harrassment to which the

tenants are subjected by the refusal that finally breaks the back of resistance to extravagant demands and reduces them to terms. It is a policy resorted to for the particular purpose. That policy is to pound the tenants into a pulp by litigation. These Zemindars do not hope to win their cases—not at all; their boast is to bring the victims to terms by very failure. "Another such victory," cried Pyrrhus after the battle of the Liris, "another such victory and I am undone!" So in the case of the poor Bengal rayyets. They cannot stand the strain of a constant succession of even decrees in their favor. When crotchety or partial judicial officers officiously convert the tenants' decrees into the landlords', Heaven save the poor! for man is leagued to humble them to the dust.

Whatever the strict merits of the quarrel, we are proud of these poor ignorant rayyetry, who have maintained this unequal contest against the most noted Zemindary family in Bengal whose example has gone far to keep up agrarian difficulties in the country. Some of them wearied of the struggle have abandoned the village, a few only have submitted in meekness to the landlord's terms, but the majority still hold out. It is these poor men, not the perspiring and vapouring Baboos, who form the true people of Bengal. They will constitute the base of the national structure of the future. They have done their part and it is now for the public and Government to do theirs. For eighteen years they have maintained their rights against every obstacle. It is time enough for Providence to come to the rescue of those that have so nobly helped themselves. Of course Province works no special miracle in each case but acts through human agencies. Let the public and the Government be those blessed instruments.

THE HINDU MARRIAGE SEASON.

THE *Indian Daily News* has a "local" headed "The Bengalee Marriage Season" introduced with the statement that this month, *Falgun* 1294 B. S., is very auspicious for the Bengalee Hindus—as if the Bengali Hindus formed a sect by themselves with an astronomy and astrology to themselves—and that the month was peculiarly propitious to them. The secret is disclosed at the end that our contemporary has adopted the communication of a correspondent with all its peculiarities of thought and expression. It is true that this is the marriage-season, that many unions have taken place in *Falgun* and many more are expected in *Baisakh*—the month after next—as after it for a period of two years the season will not be auspicious for Hindu marriage. The writer notices two marriages among the respectable Banias in town and two in Kayastha families. The nephews of the Bania Baboo Sreenath Dutt were wedded to daughters of, speaking roundly, Messrs. Bissonath Law & Co. On Tuesday, the daughter of Baboo Guru Prosunno Ghose, youngest son of the late Baboo Sibnarain Ghose, was married to a son of Baboo Nundolal Bose of Bag Bazar. Besides the usual presents to neighbours and friends and acquaintances throughout town, issued on the occasion by both families, the Boses gave a Nautch on the evening of Saturday. On Tuesday evening, the party moved slowly in regular procession of lights and silver sticks, and music, before the bridegroom seated on an illuminated throne on the shoulders of liveried chairmen, followed by a large number of friends in fine equipages and other guests in hired conveyances of the second and third classes, the Derbyshire band from Dum-Dum footing it all the way playing. Baboo Guru Prosunno, who with his intimate friends and relations received all his guests at the door, welcomed the wedding party at his entrance in the street. The bridegroom descended from his chair of state and was conducted to the cushion of state of rich gold-embroidered silk velvet ready for him in the court—no longer open—of the public male apartments in front of the domestic chapel. The dress was not quite a success. The everlasting *choga* of our own introduction is not suited to such occasions. The old *jama*

is the thing for such ceremonies and it ought not to be enveloped within a night-gown. Jewellery, of the female kind in especial, is at best a barbarity, which ought to be definitively discarded. At any rate, the *bazon* sits awkwardly on the rounded sleeve of the loose flowing cloak. It was also a mistake in art to fix the *musnud* at the left side of the enclosure in the quadrangle. The question is governed by Hindu prejudice, or else its proper position was in the centre near the entrance, with the back to the beautiful hall of worship. It was interesting to see the soft-featured handsome Bengali boy step into the royal seat and sit on his knees in true Durbar style, reminding one of Oriental court life and of the days when our people ruled or administered provinces and kingdoms. The two little pages in blue gowns began plying silver handled yak tails, as the European band in scarlet filed in front round the enclosure. The bridegroom in kincobs and jewels on embroidered silk cushion attended by military music, is nothing extraordinary in marriages in high life in Calcutta, but it is the disposition that brings out the full effect, and many costly wedding assemblies fail of impression for want of a proper place. It is not every wealthy family that is the fortunate owner of such a fine mansion so easily lending itself to scenic effect. Perhaps, the distinction of this marriage is in the union between two of the greatest and best houses, literally speaking. The Boses of Bagbazar's residence is an immense and imposing pile designed and constructed by a famous Bengali engineer, while the Ghoses' is an elegant structure lifted up to the skies above the heads of all the houses in Calcutta. The architect of the latter was evidently cramped for space, but this very necessity, while it limited the proportions of the open quadrangle which is a *sine quanon* of Hindu domestic architecture, has proved its great advantage in the way of internal embellishment and effect on ceremonial occasions. There is here no sense of long straggling barracks on all sides as in many of the larger mansions of our wealthy. With a canvas cover the court is converted into a roomy saloon surrounded by a double-storeyed colonnaded galleries on three sides, with the well-arched hall of public worship of polished stucco reposing in chaste beauty on all the fourth. Leaving a broad margin for walking and communication, the centre of the floor is railed off into an enclosure for an assembly-room or place for dancing, for squatting upon in Oriental fashion or for furnishing with sofas and chairs if necessary, the railing surmounted by figures holding branches of numerous glass globes for gas illumination. The gas of course pales the candle lights of the chandeliers in the chapel and in the galleries, but gas within doors is always a nuisance and as the supply is not always certain, it is never prudent to dispense with ordinary means of illumination. The above will, we hope, give Europeans and readers at a distance an idea of our marriage pageants as well as of the points and peculiarities of the architecture of native homes and might afford our own people some hints for future conduct.

We must not, however, forget another union next day nearer home—in our house we may say—between the younger of the two sons of the late lamented Baboo Dwarkanath Mitter (Judge of the High Court) and a daughter of Baboo Devendra Dutt (son of Baboo Rajender Dutt) of the Wellington Square family. There were the usual features of native marriages in the shape of noisy music and make-believe military display of Bowbazar band and Choona Gully horsemen, their path lighted by frail candelabras of talc shades, the whole capped by the modern infliction of a battery of electric light from the top of a *tica ghara*. The bridegroom was driven in a four-in-hand open *chaise* by the Mussulman Rarcy of Dhurmtoollah, who in his long cloak and tall Afghan hat belted by pugree, presented a noble spectacle and was by far the greatest attraction of the procession.

MUSTAFA'S SPEAKER.*

Baboo Mustafi undertook a most onerous and delicate task far beyond any unfledged graduate of Calcutta. A work like this ill-done might be a national calamity. It is no easy thing, for a foreigner specially, to eschew slang while collecting *bona fide* idioms and accepted colloquialisms.

* *The Speaker or English idioms, colloquial forms of expression, and instructive proverbs from the writings of the best modern authors, rendered into idiomatic Bengali, teaching how to carry on conversation.* By Manmatha Mustafi, B. A. Calcutta, 1888.

This compiler has done so. He has evidently relied on the best authorities.

A more dangerous part of his functions was the rendering the English into Bengali.

Here he was quite at sea without chart or compass. The whole ground is uncertain and debatable every inch of it. Under the circumstances, he deserves credit for the success he has achieved in this first venture. The difficulty of the author was intensified by the virtual abolition of the Bengali language by the Pandits and their successors, the improvers of the language of the people. The author improves wonderfully as he proceeds. The book will be a great help to schoolboys and students, whose seniors themselves might consult it with advantage.

The proverbs are the least successful part of the collection. To begin with, they are not proverbs, most of them, but inane remarks which are not even truisms. For they have not always the merit of truth. Such is the maxim that disfigures the head of the title-page. It is true and *not* true.

SAPADAPI, SARADAPI.

Reply to Query.

I notice a query put forth in your issue of the 11th instant, by a correspondent who has subscribed himself "K." as to who the goddesses Sapá and Sará are, in the saying "Sápádevi, Sarádevi." Your correspondent is not apparently aware that the expression is not "Sápádevi, Sarádevi," as he has erroneously put it, but is "Sápádapi, Sarádapi" (Sápát+api and Sarát+api) *i. e.*, "Even by curses and by arrows—both." The passage originally is the concluding portion of a *śloka*, by which a Brahman hero (either Parasuram or Dronachárya, I forget which) challenges his antagonist and tells him that he has the power to destroy the latter both by a curse being a Brahman saint and by an arrow, being a warrior :—

"Agratome bacho bahni,
Prishthatah sasaram dhanuh,
Ubhábhayáncha samartho (a) ham,
Sápádapi Sarádapi."

In my mouth is the fire of speech, on my back is the bow with arrows, I am powerful (enough to destroy you) by both—by a curse, as well as, by an arrow.

So "Sápádapi Sarádapi" should, in my humble opinion, be applied only to a case in which the speaker wishes to illustrate the fact, and to impress upon the person whom he addresses, that the former is strong enough to defeat or destroy the latter in every way, *i. e.*, under all circumstances. The saying is not however used in this sense nor in the one in which your correspondent says that it is done. In ordinary conversation, in Bengali, as you yourself cannot but be aware, the expression almost invariably signifies "cursing and abusing."

Ranchi, 24th February 1888.

B.

Just so. Our Correspondent ought more often to come forward. He is in a rich and virgin field.—Ed. R. & R.

A WARNING TO THE WIDOWER IN DECLINING AGE.

SIR,—As most of the Bengali Hindus, with slight pretensions to Western culture, unfortunately becoming a widower in the vale of years, talk of matrimony and sometimes enter into it so late in life, I think, Mr. Editor, the following translation, from a Zend book of a well-known author—Sadi-i-Shirazi—might open the eyes, at least, of some of your sensible readers, who may have to decide the question for themselves. Sometime ago, an old educationist, verily an octogenarian, simply for the satisfaction of a mania, got himself yoked to a tender girl of 12. Woe to the parents that could so ruthlessly sacrifice their daughter for the sake of lucre! woe to the match-makers and go-betweens that could bring about such an unhallowed union for the sake of undue favors! Are there no thunders in Heaven to visit these monsters? Will not the retributive justice of God overtake them? Can human depravity go further? Will not society imprecate curses on those who took active part in the wedding?

"An old man, telling a story about himself said, 'When I married a young virgin I bedecked a chamber with flowers, sat with her alone, and had fixed my eyes and heart solely upon her. Many long nights I passed without sleep, repeating jests and pleasantries to remove shyness and make her familiar. On one of those nights I said "Fortune has been propitious to you, in that you have fallen into the society of an old man of mature judgment, who has seen the world and experienced various situations of good and bad fortune, who knows the rights of society and has performed the duties of friendship, one who is affectionate, affable, cheerful and conversable. I will exert my utmost endeavours to gain your affection, and if you should treat me unkindly, I will not be offended; or, if like the parrot, your food should be sugar, I will devote my sweet life to your support. You have not met with a youth of rude disposition, with a weak understanding, headstrong, a gadder, who would be constantly changing his situations and inclinations,

sleeping every night in a new place and every day forming some new intimacy. Young men may be lively and handsome, but they are, as a rule, inconstant in their attachments. Look not for fidelity from those, who with the eyes of the nightingale, are, every instant, singing upon a different rose bush. But old men pass their time in wisdom and good manners, not in the ignorance and frivolity of youth. Seek for one better than yourself and having found him, consider yourself fortunate; with one, like yourself, you would pass your life without improvement."

"He said, 'I spoke a great deal after this manner, and thought that I had made a conquest of her heart, when all of a sudden, she fetched a cold sigh from the bottom of her heart and replied :— "All the fine speeches that you have been uttering, have not so much weight in the scale of my reason, as one single sentence which I heard from my nurse, that, if you plant an arrow in the side of a young woman, it is not so painful as the society of an old man." In short, (continued he), it was impossible to agree, and our differences ended in separation. After the time prescribed by law, she married a young man of impetuous temper, ill-natured and in indigent circumstances; so that she suffered the injuries of violence with evils of penury. However, she returned thanks for her lot and said "God be praised that I escaped from the internal torment and have obtained this permanent blessing. Amidst all this violence and impetuosity of temper, I will put up with your airs, because you are handsome and young. It is better to burn with you in hell than to be in paradise with the other (old man). The scent of onions from a beautiful mouth is more fragrant than the odour of the rose from the hand of one who is ugly."'"

Notwithstanding the frailties, imbecility, and other concomitant defects of old age as described above, when an unquestionably beautiful and delicate girl of 12 years is forcibly married by her parent, for the sake of a few hundred rupees, to a dark gloomy constellation, having a hideous mouth, emitting constantly offensive smells, her internal torture in having thus fallen into the constant company of such a horrid creature, can be better imagined than described. She would be daily in her agonies, invoking the curses of Heaven both upon herself, upon the cruel parents, upon the husband, and lastly upon the match-makers for this unhappy union.

A. T. D. M. AND H. K.

Moorsheadabad, the 17th Feb. 1888.

THE CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR.

(First published by the "Sunjibani.")

From—J. C. Veasey, Esq., Inspector-General of Police, L. P.
To—All District Superintendents of Police.

(Through Magistrates and Deputy Commissioners.)

Dated Calcutta, the 13th December 1887.

A recent occurrence having shown a lamentable failure on the part of the Police in the discharge of their duties as an Intelligence Department, and it being considered necessary that the scope of their responsibilities in this respect should be defined and extended, the following instructions are now issued :—

2. Sub-Inspectors in charge of stations will, in future, submit weekly to the District Superintendent a confidential report on such of the undermentioned subjects as may be indicated by that officer, who is to vary them as he may think expedient with reference to the circumstances of the District concerned, and to his estimate of the capacity and trustworthiness of the subordinate in question. The information communicated is to be obtained from all available sources, the authority being mentioned whenever possible, and officers should be encouraged to report freely everything, however apparently trivial, that can have a possible political significance.

3. The District Superintendent, and in the case of Railway Police, the Assistant Inspector-General will extract from the reports all that he thinks worthy of notice, and submit the same in translation, combined with information gathered from other sources and explanatory notes, when necessary, in a weekly confidential diary, through the Magistrate of the District, or in the case of railways, to the Inspector-General direct.

4. This diary, which is to be in half margin and in the District Superintendent's own handwriting, will be submitted every Saturday after working hours, will be treated as a confidential communication, and will not be sent into the office. The cover containing it must be marked 'D. O., and the District Magistrate will be instructed to send it by the next post direct to this office, after perusal, marking the cover "Confidential Special Branch," and not to return it to the District Superintendent.

5. The diary will be written up from day to day, and each paragraph will bear a weekly serial number. Officers receiving and forwarding diaries will enter in them any action they have taken, or intend to take, regarding any matter mentioned in them, and will sign such diaries and enter the date on which they forward them.

6. District Superintendents must understand that for these orders to have the desired result, the cordial co-operation and interest of all officers in the chain of correspondence is absolutely necessary. They must not, therefore, content themselves with

merely passing on reports as received, but must comment fully on them, adding all such information as they may be able to obtain from independent observation and inquiry, and Sub-Inspectors should invariably have it impressed upon them that the collection of information for the weekly report is by no means the least important part of their duties, and that aptitude for this kind of work will recommend them for advancement.

7. *List of Subjects to be reported upon.*

(a) All political movements, sects, leaders, publications, and the like.

(b) Information regarding religious sects, changes in doctrine and practice having a political significance, propagandism.

(c) The arrival, sojourn, departure, and proceedings generally of suspicious characters and foreigners, special attention being paid to possible foreign emissaries and to the movements of wandering gangs of criminals, the presence in any place of noted criminals, and any circumstance regarding their habits that may come to notice.

(d) Rumours or published opinions disturbing the public peace ; popular feelings and rumours.

(e) Religious excitement ; comments on laws and Government measures.

(f) Illicit trade in arms and ammunition with special reference to any prosecution under the Arms Act for smuggling, and to any discoveries of concealed arms.

(g) Affairs in independent or semi-independent Native States, and rumours regarding them.

(h) Constitution, objects, and proceedings of native societies whether established for political or ostensibly for other objects.

(i) Political or mass-meetings : their origin, organization, and result as to public feeling in the neighbourhood selected with especial reference to any tendency towards, or probability of agrarian excitement.

(j) Recruiting for the Indian Army or for Native States.

ABOLITION OF IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

A Bill to amend the law relating to Imprisonment for Debt.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the law relating to imprisonment for debt ; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Debtors Act, 1888 ; and

(2) It shall come into force at once.

(3) The several portions thereof have the same local extent as the enactments to which they respectively relate.

2. After section 245 of the Code of Civil Procedure the following sections shall be inserted, namely :—

“245A. Notwithstanding anything in the last foregoing section or in any other section of this Code, the Court shall not order the arrest of imprisonment of a woman in execution of a decree for money.

“245B. (1) Notwithstanding anything in section 245 or in any other section of this Code, when an application is for the execution of a decree for money by the arrest and imprisonment of a judgment-debtor who is liable to be arrested in pursuance of the application, the Court may, instead of issuing a warrant for his arrest, issue a notice calling upon him to appear before the Court on a day to be specified in the notice and show cause why he should not be committed to jail in execution of the decree.

“(2) If appearance is not made in obedience to the notice, the Court shall, if the decree-holder so requires, issue a warrant for the arrest of the judgment-debtor.”

3. In section 250 of the said Code, between the word “shall” and the word “issue,” the following shall be inserted, namely :—

“subject to the provisions of sections 245A and 245B.”

4. After section 337 of the said Code the following shall be inserted, namely :—

“337A. (1) When a judgment-debtor appears before the Court in obedience to a notice issued under section 245B, or is brought before the Court after being arrested in execution of a decree for money, and it appears to the Court that the judgment-debtor is unable from poverty or other sufficient cause to pay the amount of the decree or, if that amount is payable by instalments, the amount of any instalment thereof, the Court may, upon such terms, if any, as it thinks fit, make an order disallowing the application for his arrest and imprisonment, or directing his release, as the case may be.

“(2) Before making an order under sub-section (1), the Court may take into consideration any allegation of the decreeholder touching any of the following matters, namely :—

(a) the decree being for a sum for which the judgment-debtor was bound as a trustee or as acting in any other fiduciary capacity to account ;

(b) the transfer, concealment or removal by the judgment-debtor of any part of his property after the date of the institution of the suit in which the decree was made, or the commission by him after that date of any other act of bad faith in relation to his property, with the object or effect of obstructing or delaying the decreeholder in the execution of the decree ;

(c) any undue or unreasonable preference given by the judgment-debtor to any of his other creditors ;

(d) his refusal or neglect to pay the amount of the decree or some part thereof when he has or since the date of the decree has had the means of paying it ;

(e) the likelihood of his absconding or leaving the jurisdiction of the Court with the object or effect mentioned in clause (b) of this sub-section.

(3) While any of the matters mentioned in sub-section (2) are being considered, the Court may in its discretion order the judgment-debtor to be imprisoned, or leave him in the custody of an officer of the Court, or release him on his furnishing sufficient security for his appearance on the requisition of the Court.

“(4) A judgment-debtor released under this section may be re-arrested.

“(5) If the Court does not make such an order as is mentioned in sub-section (1), it shall cause the judgment-debtor to be arrested if he has not already been arrested and, subject to the other provisions of this Code, commit him to jail.”

5. To section 380 of the said Code the following shall be added, namely :—

“On the application of any defendant in a suit for money in which the plaintiff is a woman the Court may at any stage of the suit make a like order if it is satisfied that such plaintiff does not possess any sufficient immoveable property within British India independent of the property in suit.”

6. In section 640 of the said Code, after the words “from arrest in execution of civil process” the words “in any case in which the arrest of women is not prohibited by this Code” shall be added.

7. In section 642 of the said Code, for the words and figures “except as provided in sections 256 and 643” the following shall be substituted, namely :—

“except as provided in section 337A, sub-section (5), and sections 256 and 643.”

8. After section 652 of the said Code the following shall be added, namely :—

“653. (1) At any time after a warrant of arrest has been issued under this Code, the Court may cancel it on the ground of the serious illness of the person against whom the warrant was issued.

“(2) When a judgment-debtor has been arrested under this Code the Court may release him if in its opinion he is not in a fit state of health to undergo imprisonment.

“(3) When a judgment-debtor has been committed to jail, he may be released therefrom—

(a) by the Local Government, on the ground of his suffering from any infectious or contagious disease, or

(b) by the committing Court, or any Court to which that Court is subordinate, on the ground of his suffering from any serious illness.

“(4) A judgment-debtor released under this section may be re-arrested, but the period of his imprisonment shall not in the aggregate exceed that prescribed in section 342 or section 481, as the case may be.”

9. The last sixteen words of section 8 of the Married Women's Property Act, 1874, and the whole of section 31 of the Ajmere Courts Regulation, 1877, are hereby repealed.

10. (1) For the first fifty-five words of section 48 of the Act of the Governor of Fort St. George in Council, No. VIII of 1865, the following shall be substituted, namely :—

“No person shall be imprisoned as a defaulter for a longer period than six months whatever the amount of the arrears may be, nor for a longer period than six weeks if the arrears do not exceed fifty rupees.”

(2) For the proviso to section 163 of the North-Western Provinces Rent Act, 1881, the following shall be substituted, namely :—

“Provided that the time for which a debtor may be confined in execution of a decree under this Act shall not exceed six weeks when the amount decreed (exclusive of costs) does not exceed fifty rupees, or six months in any other case.”

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold. The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter

house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evasive, good nature, that even a stranger would conceive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible. The author is impartial in his censures. There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; the *Career of an Indian Princess*, *Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between

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1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of her, as they are like from description, however faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read:—[Extract.] "The paddy sea is thus inimitably described:—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraits of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

The Tribune, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious; he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his susceptibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "she had such large languishing eyes!" But he is nothing if not philosophical, and his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—*The Pioneer*, Dec. 1887.

It may be well-known to all of our readers that Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee the

veteran editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* newspaper, has just published a book describing the four voyages that he made between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah when he had to go and to return from the latter place in the capacity of the minister to its prince. The literature yet produced in the English tongue by our own countrymen is very scanty and any sensible addition to it cannot well escape the attention of the public press. Much greater therefore should be the attention claimed on behalf of a book which comes from the pen of so well-known a writer in the field of Indian journalism as Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee. That gentleman's career as a writer fills nearly the last thirty years, and there has hardly been any subject of public importance during that long period which has not occupied his attention. Master of an inimitable racy style, with a vast store of classical allusions ever ready at the call, and possessing an infinite fund of humour, our author often enlivens every thing that he touches, and his peculiar strength lies in description. We therefore welcome the appearance of this book more especially as the subject is one which to make it interesting, requires a lively colouring and a rich, picturesque and imaginative description. There exist several books of travels written by eminent Englishmen, and every one of these differs perhaps, in their conception and plan of execution. Of these none was more widely read in the course of the last few years than Carlyle's reminiscences of an Irish Journey in 1849. That book is made up of extracts from diaries and the worst features of it are the bitter and caustic personal remarks interspersed throughout the book. However that may suit the polished and fashionable taste of England, in our country it would have been singularly out of place and we are glad that Babu Sambhu Chunder has confined himself to the description of those natural sceneries he passed through, and the means of travel in the distant and little-known regions of East Bengal. That the rivers of Bengal, with their circuitous and entangling courses do enshrine in them a deep spirit of poetry and are of sincere interest to the real man of imagination, is proved by the fact that Sir William Hunter, than whom a more accomplished man of letters never passed the best years of his life in Bengal, should have chosen the subject for his very interesting address at Oxford, the other day. The gentle waves, the gentler ripples, the grassy banks, the ever-entwining courses, the pleasant air, the sceneries on both sides make the rivers of Bengal a genuine thing of interest to those whose eyes are perpetually fed by the artificial gloss and dross of civilization and few could have set perhaps the loveliness of our rivers in better light than our accomplished author. His eloquent sentences, marching in regular order one after another, and embodying in their selves, every minute detail, that can lend to a scene its finest artistic effect, seem to place the reader in the very midst of sceneries described, and the man of leisure who would acquaint himself with the state of things in East Bengal, can hardly resort to a better book. The journeys which are described in this volume are certainly uneven and though they correspond to facts as they furnish no interesting situation, no critical moments, to the seeker of intellectual excitement and this will no doubt constitute a serious objection to the book on the part of sensational seeking readers. None has however any thing to quarrel with the choice of a subject that any author may choose to write upon and none of the outside public can afford any explanation as to why the author should have preferred one subject to another. We think however there are one or two indications of bad taste. Still we welcome the appearance of this book and trust that it is but the first of a long series of works in writing which our author should spend the matured experience and the literary facility of a well-spent life.—*Young Bengal*, Feb. 2, 1888.

We owe an apology to Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee for the apparent negligence with which we have treated that delightful work of his—*Travels in Bengal*. Mr. Mookerjee, as almost every one knows, is one of the best English scholars in India; he writes as gracefully as does the most scholarly Englishman, and ample proof of this is afforded in the pages

of his book before us, which is an interesting narrative of four journeys,—“two trips to Tipperah and two trips back”—accompanied by historical, geographical, cartographical and many other—*ital* notes of the lands passed through. We confess we have been but through the first half of the work, and, as we have proposed to review it in two papers, we think our progress sufficient for present purposes. Our author has not, as far as we have read, met with those thrilling adventures we read of—oft with a certain amount of sneaking disbelief—in the average hunter's narratives or traveller's tales; peaceful as the bosom of a still lake were his journeyings in Bengal Proper. He carried no formidable weapons with him, save and except a rusty old gun which, when called into requisition once, refused to go off; and yet withal, few more delightful works of travel in India have we read than the one now under our hands. The charms of true yet eloquent description, the force of observation, the gift of seeing sermons in stones, are all possessed in a great degree by Mr. Mookerjee; and we are pleasantly surprised at the lively and fascinating manner in which he can palm off on the reader the dreariest incident of his trips. Mr. Mookerjee will forgive us if we mention that we think him a very gallant old gentleman—with the accent on the second syllable. He has evinced in his little work a weakness for describing the Beauties of Bengal with all the poetic ardours of a Strephon. Did we not know enough of the erudite and good old "Babu" editor, we might be inclined to call this particular weakness of his, in Carlyle's language—"a Byronism of taste." Here is how he speaks of a beautiful damsel he saw disporting in the running waters of the beautiful Megna, at Sonargoan.—[Extract.]

But the above excerpt is not the best thing in the book by far. Although every line in it which we have gone over, is a line that we ourselves having written, would not wish to blot out, there are passages in it which surprise us and raise our hearts to a higher level by their eloquence, their beauty and wealth of expression. Running through the pages of *Travels in Bengal* is a vein of quiet humour—that humour which makes us fall in love with writers and tempts us to fly to them for solace in trouble, for a return of serenity in moments of vexation. Mr. Mookerjee has, in his work, added one more to the innumerable anecdotes relative to the fidelity of man's best friend among brutes—the dog. The sentinel duties of a canine phenomenon—Tom by name are related in glowing terms, but we shall not rob the author of one of his finest plums by transferring it into our columns. This review, as we have already stated, is but the introductory one. In our next, or a little later, we shall take up Mr. Mookerjee's book where we are leaving it off, and make our readers a little more familiar with one of the cleverest native gentlemen of the day and with his interesting book on travels in Baboodom. Mr. Mookerjee, like all his fellow mortals, is human, and he has let us know this in his present work. Now, we propose to state only in our second review. Would he however pardon us if we surrender to the temptation of finishing this up with his pretty remarks about Mooning and the Moon. After "the contending gods of the elements" had "left off" one night when our traveler was on the bosom of the Megna, he watched Luna issue from behind the clouds in all her grandeur and radiance. That sight, so delightful to the mind with a leaning towards the aesthetic and poetic, gave vent to the following: [Extract.]

Now, the above will prove a grand surprise to the European readers especially, who may perhaps be unkind enough to doubt that it was written by a "Babu" just as people have doubted that Shakespeare was really the author of *Shakespeare* and Tennyson the author of *Tennyson*. Mr. Mookerjee, and we part here, but when work is done and we sit in our cosy arm-chair at home and watch, as is our wont, the blue smoke curl gracefully away from our pipe, we shall dream with waking eyes of the beautiful Megna and the damsels of Bengal, of the moon and the waters, and we know that we shall again take up the *Travels in Bengal* and satisfy our wish of getting to the end of such a pleasant little work.—*The Malabar and Travancore Spectator*, February 4, 1888.

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Womesh Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medical Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30th October, 1886."

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REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1888.

No. 314.

to R. THE GOVERNMENT KHAIR KHWA.

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th

A LEGAL DOGGEREL.

DEDICATED TO A NATIVE JUDGE ON THE BENCH IN A SMALL OUT
OF THE WAY STATION IN UPPER INDIA.

There was a Judge of Poor-in-luck-up,
Who very much with pride was stuck up.
He is a d—d Cachmerie sly,
His proper name is Kala Seaie.*

As representative of the Queen,
In the Revenue Court he's seen.
He's a learned man, as doth appear,
From his great work the Gazetteer.

Seated on the Judge's bench in state,
Naked as to his legs and pate,
With a fragrant hookah by his side,
He calls for a case to be tried.

Ho! Sheristadar, what's on to-day?
The case of Runjeet Sing you say?
Peon! call in the rascal, I'll soon squelch—
The rest was cut off by a *****

Plaintiff now enters in a fright,
States to the Court his claims, his right,
With greatest clearness and precision.
But then the all-prejudged decision
Rudely destroys his dearest hopes
Of gaining back his fields and topes!
And now 'tis plain the Court had meant
To make award for Government!

The Judge, with mouth now filled with pán,
Treats the poor devil's case with scorn.
Clearing his mouth from the red juice,
Addresses plaintiff—"Tis of no use
Now here fresh matter to disclose.
The Judge here wiped his mighty nose.
Think not, dear reader, that I rail,
He wiped it on his own coat tail.

'Kil Fishey Lall at his right hand
Was seated, looking quite as grand
As Judge himself, for one scarce sees
Which is the chap that gets the fees,
Or which the Judge in judgment sitting,
For this is friendship unbecoming
Between any Judge and his Vakils.
I'm sure 'tis thus the public feels.

* Blacking.

The Bench having pronounced its fiat,
Awaits the issue now in quiet.
And as the Judge sits scratching his toe,
Baboo Fishey Lall grunts Hein! just so,
Your judgment's good, so without loss
Of time you should get great kudos,
And the Government for you should stir,
Make you an Ass. Commissioner,
Or, to preclude all further fudge,
Appoint you to High Court as Judge.

The English Pleader, at this butter,
Smil'd, as the Judge began to stutter,
Having just put a fresh gallowrie*
Highly spiced "immensa ore."

Fishey Lall!—at last he stammered—
With your praise I feel enamoured.
The English pleader, trying to joke,
Got in his face a puff of smoke,
Which, going into his mouth so slick,
Made him feel uncommon sick.

The case now done and tied up his brief,
He asks the Court if he may leave.
Once outside, he takes a last fond look
With thumb to nose, what's known as snook,
And mutters with a look so leary
Suum ust budzat Cashmerie,†
Through many Courts I've chanced to rove,
Yet Court like this ne'er seen Bai Jove!

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Viceroy returned to the capital from Darjeeling yesterday, and brought down with him wind and rain.

THE mail brings the disastrous news that a snowstorm passed over Switzerland followed by numerous fatal avalanches. The St. Gothard railway tunnel was blocked as also the Arlberg tunnel. The Langur station with a train was buried in snow.

COUNT HERBERT BISMARCK has arrived in London in connection with the Russian proposals about Bulgaria.

THE German Consulate at Bankok is to be converted into a Residency. Preparatory to absorbing Siam within the German Empire? The French having got a new India, the Germans must be looking out for compensation in the same quarter.

* A pán.

† *Awul Afghan Duum Kumboh Suum budzat Cashmerie*. A Persian proverb, meaning—The biggest blackguard is an Afghan, the next a Kumboh and the third a Cashmerie who has become a Mahomedan. Or, it may read thus—One an Afghan, double as much a Kumboh and three times as much a Cashmerie who has changed his religion.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

SYED MAHMOOD, son of Syed Ahmed, has taken to wife a daughter of Nawab Sharfuddin of Delhi. With all his foreign predilections, he has wisely gone home for a partner in life. Perhaps he needs no foreign help in his prospects of life. He is a Syud and no mistake; the genuine article. Besides, he is his father's son and, of course, somebody, always. He is a High Court Judge already.

A NUMBER of Burmese convicts—transported for life for the crime of defending their hearths and homes and branded as Dacoits—have escaped from the convict settlement in the Andaman Islands to the forest. Was the discipline of Christian civilisation so insupportable that they preferred to take their chance with the naked savages of the interior?

THE Larpent enquiry has closed in Lahore. The Commissioners will make their report to Government.

IT has been decided to run a railway between Sialkot and Jammu, a distance of 25 miles. The Cashmere Durbar is to find the cost estimated at half a lac per mile, the Government of India only guaranteeing 4 per cent on the British section, which is a small fraction. We wonder where the impoverished Durbar is to find the ways and means, without borrowing.

THE Exodux Question receives a further development this year. Hitherto it has been the practice to leave in Calcutta one Assistant Secretary in the Military Department, in charge of the Military, Home, Foreign, P. W. D. and Revenue and Agricultural Departments. Col. Collen has obtained sanction to remove a larger portion of his office to Simla leaving the Military Department to the mercies of its Chief Clerk.

IT is reported from Vienna, under date the 16th February:—

"The Parliament House was besieged to-day by hundreds of students who noisily demanded admittance to the galleries to hear the debate on the Government Bill placing certain restrictions on liberties of students' clubs in University towns. The students smashed the iron railing in front of the ticket office, and made their way to the conversation rooms of the House on the pretence of wanting to speak with several well-known anti-Semitic Deputies. One of the latter, Herr Patta, went out to them and led a number into the galleries without tickets. The Minister of Public Instruction delivered a temperate speech, pointing out that the restrictions now proposed are such as have long been in force in German Universities, such as Leipsic and Berlin and hinted that what had forced him to bring in a Bill was the unpatriotic, anti-Austrian, and anti-Semitic conduct of a portion of the students, who are misled by political agitators, and then left in the lurch, after their whole career has been ruined. The speech was received with cries of derision on the benches of the German National Party, and with groans and disorder among the students, to such an extent that the President threatened to have the galleries cleared. The debate was eventually adjourned till to-morrow."

THE late Jam of Lus Beyla disinherited by his will his eldest son, Meer Jam Ali Khan, now a state prisoner in Quetta. He had rebelled against his father and, while committing many outrages at the capital, had attempted the Jam's life with a drawn sword. The second son—a boy of 8—Meer Jam Yakub Khan is named in the will as heir. The inhabitants are desirous to have the boy as their Jam.

DR. LAWRI, Residency Surgeon, Hyderabad, has found a preventive of if not a cure for cholera. The Doctor is of opinion that while the disease is about, no one who takes 3 to 5 grains of quinine before each meal will take the disease.

AT the Bow Street Police Court, on January 28, a summons was obtained for the Earl of Durham against James Davis, proprietor of the *Bat*, for a libel against his Lordship. It was stated that, under pretence of discussing the recent turf dispute between Lord Durham and Sir George Chetwynd, an article in the *Bat*, under the head of "Letters to Notable Sportsmen—the Earl of Durham" insinuates that Lord Durham drove his wife to insanity by his brutality, it being true that he instituted a suit for nullity of his marriage on the ground of her insanity.

ANOTHER Libel case in the sporting world:—

"Mr. Archibald McNeill—special correspondent of the *Sportsman* at the prizefight in France between Smith and Kilrain—was either brutally

murdered and flung into the sea, or, somehow, tumbled into the harbour at Boulogne. This lamentable affair has created, and continues to create a great sensation here, and the editor of the *Sporting Times* took occasion to say of the late Mr. McNeill's employer that when first the news reached England, he treated the matter with indifference, and subsequently attempted to use it for advertising purposes. Mr. Ashley declares that Corlett's statements are absolutely untrue, indeed, that he has been so upset in his mind by the death of his unfortunate and valued contributor that he has hardly been able to attend properly to business since the event took place. Moreover, that so far from acting shabbily in the matter, he was willing to incur any expense to bring the assassin to justice. Mr. Ashley and Mr. Corlett have been at loggerheads for the past fifteen or twenty years, and they never lose an opportunity, on the race course and elsewhere, directly and indirectly, of insulting and reviling each other, yet strange as it may seem, both are acute men of business, cautious in their affairs, and not otherwise ungenerous in their dispositions. Should the case come into Court—though, as yet, the writ is not served—an attempt will be made to rake up the past lives of both these Turf 'prophets,' doubtless to the public entertainment. Mr. Corlett is an owner of racehorses, whose colours of white and gold are sufficiently familiar at minor meetings, while Ashley, in partnership with Sidney Smith, owns probably the largest sporting news agency in the world."

MR. PHILLIP P. Piedade, Honorary Treasurer of the Fort Constance of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Bombay, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following donations:—

"His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, Rs. 50; Nawab Syad Atar Husein of Purneah, Rs. 30; Nawab Bahadoor of Moorshedabad, K. C. I. E., Rs. 25; Sir Rama Swamy Moodliar, Kt., C. I. E., of Madras, Rs. 10; Maharajah Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Kt., of Calcutta, Rs. 10; Rai Mahabir Prasad Sha Bahadoor, Zemindar of Chupra (Behar.) Rs. 10; Raja Mohima Ranjan Chaudhry of Rangpur, Bengal, 10; Horendro Narain Singh Chaudhry, Zemindar of Goalpara, Assam, Rs. 10; Dayaram Gidumul, Esq., B. A., L. L. B., of Ahmedabad, Rs. 10; Babu Frigunand Upadhyay, Zemindar of Chupra (Behar), Rs. 5; Palle Chentsal Row Pantula, Esq., C. I. E., of Madras, Rs. 5; Ananga Mohan Ray Chaudhry, Zemindar of Tusbhandar, Rangpur, Bengal, Rs. 5."

IT has been calculated that—

"Three million women of the United States work for money. Of these 6,00,000 are agricultural labourers, mainly in the cotton fields of the South; 6,40,000 are employed in manufactories, while 5,30,000 in the laundries of the country insist that 'the Chinese must go'; 2,80,000 are milliners, and 2,00,000 find employment as dress-makers; 60,000 earn their bread in the tailors' shops and 960,000 are saleswomen, teachers, telegraph operators, typewriters, book-keepers, typesetters, and nurses. There are 2,500 female physicians."

THE following is going the round of the native Press:—

"A young Hindu of some village near the Kharian tahsil, district Gujrat, had a row with his wife some years ago, and married another young girl by paying some hundreds of rupees to the father of the girl. As his first wife was obedient to his parents they turned out disgracefully the new bride and bridegroom. The latter after some days begged pardon, and entered his father's house. The bride tried her best to enter her husband's house by threatenings and beggings, but to no effect. On the other hand, she was distinctly told by husband's parents that she could marry another husband. She waited for about seven years, during which time she left no stone unturned in inducing her husband's parents, but to no good end. At last her father brought her to Jhelum, few days ago, and declared his daughter unmarried. A young man of the Jhelum city offered 300 rupees to her father, and married his daughter on the night of the 9th current in the house of Pandit Ganesh in Bag Mohulla. On the 10th current, the bridegroom was very jolly in his relations, and telling his friends that he did a very profitable bargain yesterday. Instantly a man of the bride's village came to the spot, and stated that this girl was married long ago. The new bridegroom, fearing from the law and caste system, turned out the poor girl, who crying and telling that *she would die but won't leave him*. Her father was, at last, compelled to return the money, and took his daughter back. While they were on their way towards home they were called by a cavalry man who bought the girl for 300 rupees or more. Mr. Editor, you will be surprised to learn how the Hindus are making bargain of their daughters in these days. They have no fear from Law, Religion, or Society. I solicit that our Justice Government will kindly put a stop to evils like these."

The writer's language may be slovenly, but he is a genuine reformer. We shall not be surprised if our Justice Government should circulate his valuable communication for the opinion of the tennis-loving officials.

THE next or 2nd Criminal Sessions of the High Court begins on Monday next. Mr. Justice Norris has been told off for the duty. The calender is a light one.

MR. MARSDEN has fined the driver of a second class hackney carriage Rs. 50, for using his carriage without registering. The man had applied for registration but the carriage not being in proper condition, it was refused. He holds a certificate from the South Suburban Municipality, but that gives him no jurisdiction in Calcutta.

SURGEON MAJOR Kali Pada Gupta, M. B., is *Gazetted* to officiate as Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, in addition to his own duties, during the absence of Brigade-Surgeon R. Lidderdale. Would the Calcutta Corporation have accepted him as their sanitary officer? The Commissioners showed their appreciation of Native worth by rejecting the offer of Dr. K. D. Ghose.

THE sly foxes who affected to despise the shrievalty itself when it fell to a man of no birth nor fortune, and without the advantages of high caste or commanding position, are now punished. In Bengali parlance, they may be found dead at their own quarters. The shrievalty may be a sinecure, and is open to derision as an ephemeral sinecure. But it may have its chances, like the visit of the Prince of Wales in the late Dugmber Mitter's time. Though such princely visits are like angels—in their rarity only—there are numerous incidents of other kinds which may bring the Sheriff to the front. Such an incident has come to dignify the shrievalty of 1888. We refer to the requisition published in a morning paper "To the Hon'ble Dr. Mahendralal Sircar, C.I.E., to R. of Calcutta, to convene a public meeting in the Town Hall at 11 A.M. on Thursday, March 22nd, in honor of the retiring Viceroy. Is it not something for a professional man and almost plain citizen to be requested by the Reises of the country—Rajas, Maharajas and Nawabs—to issue his fiat for a gathering of the nation, to discuss the administration of Her Majesty's Representative in the East? It is a mere formality, no doubt, and Dr. Sircar has, as a matter of course, complied with the requisition and called the meeting in the terms of the requisition, but what are honors and dignities—specially the official honors and dignities for which mankind hankers—but so many forms and formalities? Man is a weak little creature whose greatness is made up of trifles. It is mostly mere affectation when men take up a high attitude. A toy himself, his life bounded by a span, what should man's honors be but baubles? It becomes our insignificance to have a due respect for shows and shadows.

..

THE French are awaking to the folly of undertaking Colonial obligations before they were secure at Home :—

"During the debate in the French Chamber on the colonial estimates, on the 13th February, M. Etienne, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, refuting some of the criticisms of M. de Lanessan, said that the actual expenses on account of Indo-China would not exceed 70,000,000fr. The uniting of the Indo-Chinese settlements under one administration had simplified the machinery of government, and the number of troops could now be reduced by 10,000 men. M. Felix Faure, speaking on behalf of the Government, declared that the policy of France must consist in maintaining a firm but benevolent protectorate in Indo-China. The state of affairs there was perfectly satisfactory, and the army of occupation might be shortly reduced, but it was necessary to act with prudence in the matter. M. Delafosse, of the Right, and M. Perrin, Radical, maintained that the occupation of Tonquin was a danger to France so long as threatenings of war resounded on her European frontier. A vote was then taken on the credit of 20,000,000fr. on account of expenditure in Tonquin, and the Chamber, by an even vote of 256 against 256, threw out the credit. M. Tirard, the Premier, thereupon declared that if the vote implied the evacuation of Tonquin, the Government declined to accept the responsibility of such action; but if it simply signified a request to effect economies, the Ministry were prepared to adopt the course indicated. He therefore called upon the Chamber to vote a credit of 10,800,000fr., or 200,000fr. less than the sum originally asked for. The reduced credit was then adopted by 264 to 256."

That shows the direction of the wind and the complications expected on the Continent.

..

Mr. J. G. Cordery, C. S. I., Resident at Hyderabad, has been granted furlough for four months, Mr. A. P. Howell, Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division, officiates for him.

Holloway's Pills.—With darkening days and changing temperatures the digestion becomes impaired, the liver disordered, and the mind despondent, unless the cause of the irregularity be expelled from the blood and body by such an alterative as these Pills. They directly attack the source of the evil, thrust out all impurities from the circulation, restore the distempered organs to their natural state, and correct all defective or contaminated secretions. Such an easy means of instituting health, strength, and cheerfulness should be applied by all whose stomachs are weak, whose minds are much harassed, or whose brains are overworked. Holloway's is essentially a blood tempering medicine, whereby its influence reaches the remotest fibre of the frame and effects a universal good.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Report of the Public Service Commission was made public on Tuesday the 6th instant. We give elsewhere a portion of the Recommendations.

THE Indian Government is not the only one afflicted with monarchs retired from business. Egypt too has her Dhuleep Singh in Ismael Pasha. More fortunate in his advisers and advocates than the—Cub of the Punjab, the Ex-Khedive has brought his claims against the Government to a settlement, thanks to the exertions and management of Mrs. Marriott. Of his claim for 116,000l. annually from the Civil List, Ismael is to receive land of the value of 1,630,800l. sterling, and 100,000l. for his claims for growing crops. His palaces and effects in Egypt and Constantinople, valued by him at 575,000l. sterling, have been restored to him.

THE Model State is in a bad way. Slowly but surely the toils are encompassing Travancore. Heaven save the ruler who alienates the Press. It was sheer folly in the Durbar to despise its numerous and clever enemies of its own household. Though baffled oft, they never lost heart, but rather mutually kept themselves in countenance. And now at length their persistent exposure of misrule in the great Malabar Raj is telling. The days are gone by when the favour of a Governor was an all-sufficing resource. The visit of the Governor of Madras to Travancore was an event of great importance in this connection. It might be the turning-point in the controversy. It was regarded with different feelings by the two sides—with hope by the accuser and misgiving by the accused. Both sides prepared for it. Those who had hitherto been representing the Court and Government of Travancore as utterly corrupt and incorrigible, now filled the air with their lamentations and curses and their prayers to Lord Connemara. To help the Governor in his inquiry they formulated their charges and culminated a whole pamphlet. The Durbar was no less active. It comported itself as if it was its last chance, but it bestirred itself characteristically. It exhausted itself in a grand reception of the new comer, appealing to Lord Connemara's human heart and Irish imagination. The malcontent cause was "dished" by the Court in a magnificent display. But it didn't do, after all. It merely staved off the threatened crash. The Governor went away apparently pleased, but not, we suspect, without giving His Highness and Minister a quiet hint to set their house in order. Accordingly, there are signs of activity in that direction. At the same time the press itself is being used to bolster up the reputation of the administration. The Sarvani too has been apparently shelved, for the moment.

MR. SWINHOE'S rule as Khedive is over, and he has been shelved. The Commissioners who had elected him Vice-chairman of the Suburban Corporation, would not reappoint him, but have found their next man in Baboo Ashutosh Biswas. The official Chairman Mr. Forbes accepted his new Vice in a great little speech. He said—

"for himself that he was perfectly satisfied with the selection the commissioners had made. In fact, if he had been called upon to make the nomination, his first impulse would have been to continue existing arrangements, but after that he should certainly have suggested Baboo Asutosh Biswas—first, because he was a thorough-going business man, and secondly, because he was the leader of the opposition. He was sanguine that the appointment of Baboo Asutosh Biswas would terminate a deal of the friction which existed, and one who had hitherto been against him would now be with him."

After all the trouble he has had from the elect of Demos, the District Chief could scarcely help regarding with sly humour the prospects of the new arrangement. For Mr. Swinhoe the struggle is over:

The last of danger and distress is passed. Baboo Biswas' trial and agony begins. He will be lucky indeed if, at the end of his term, he can secure his re-election. But therein he is lucky. Long before the determination of his municipal vicerealty, the Corporation itself will have been dissolved as a separate entity and received into the bosom of the metropolis. Our best wishes attend Babu Ashutosh.

WE received on Tuesday the following telegram from Cuttack :—

"An evening party was given by Baboo Madhu Sudan Das last night to meet Mr. and Mrs. Metcalfe. European and native *elite*, consisting of about 400 ladies, gentlemen and children, attended. The house was nicely decorated and a canopy was tastefully drawn up in

the compound. Refreshment was provided for all; amusements terminated with firework. Then Baboo Madhu Sudan Das spoke on behalf of his countrymen, dwelling upon the necessity of good feeling between the ruler and the ruled, and concluding with expressions of sorrow at parting with our worthy Commissioner so suddenly on account of ill health, and offering thanks to Mrs. Metcalfe for the interest she took in the medical help of the women. Mr. Metcalfe then rose to thank Baboo Madhu Sudan Das and his friends and countrymen, for the feeling they expressed about him, and while recalling to his memory the services rendered by his grandfather, father and brother to this country, said that there were still men in India who consider the Metcalfes as their own, and from his experience he has no doubt of the loyalty of the natives, and the key to rule them is kind treatment. He attributed the ill-feeling between Europeans and natives to defective moral education and expressed a hope that it would soon disappear. Baboo Kallypada Banerjee opportunely observed while the goodbye was illuminated 'I hope it shall not be the last.' The entertainment was a grand success and Baboo Madhu Sudan Das deserves thanks."

We hope Mr. Metcalfe has not left any accounts unadjusted in Cuttack. We miss the voice of Young Orissa in the demonstration. We should like to hear Baboo Deno Nath Banerjee on the merits of the "worthy Commissioner." Mr. Metcalfe scarcely showed good taste in utilising what was at best a social compliment—if it was not an exacted tribute from one not quite a free agent—for glorifying his family. Perhaps that was the only way left to him of covering his own insignificance. In default of any achievements of his own, he was reduced to revel in the pleasures of memory and dwell on the services rendered to this country by his grandfather, father and brother. Perhaps, it would not be amiss to describe the enjoyment as belonging rather to the "pleasures of the imagination." Mr. Metcalfe, we presume, did not descend to particulars, or he might have found it difficult to make out a case for so many of his name. With one notable exception, the Metcalfes have been an obscure "lot," and even the great Sir Theophilus has been far more lucky in a biographer than considerable in action. He was an honest man, however, and though there was something almost ludicrous in the nervous haste with which he broke the fetters from off the Press so soon as he got the chance during his acting incumbency as Governor-General, under the certainty almost of their reimposition by order from Home, we are bound to be grateful to him, the more so as he had always advocated such a measure and sacrificed himself in carrying it out. To us his greatest claim to respect has always lain in his high personal character. Herein he was truly great. He was thoroughly honorable. In a corrupt age he was incorruptible. Would that his kinsmen and descendants could say half as much for themselves!

THE latest venture in journalism in Sind is a twice a week *Everybody's Paper*—so named *par excellence*, but in reality most ominously. What is everybody's business is nobody's business. The subscription 4 annas a month is meant to attract a large number, but the lordly European will, we fear, have nothing to say to such a concern. The old Nabobs used to pay for their common kitchen vegetables—brinjals and gourds and so on—with Rupees and gold mohurs. Nor was it so preposterous as the vulgarity of these latter days might think. We say the point of a joke lies in the hearer's ear. The same analogy holds in everything else. The price of a thing lies in the position of the purchaser. Every man has his price—in other than the Walpolean sense. As there are alternative laws of demand and supply—demand creating supply equally with supply inducing demand—so there are conflicting principles governing price, one being the result of competition and another imposed by custom, while a third conforms to status of the buyer. Many of the fees we pay are kept up at their present figures by the second rule. And even in the present reign of political economy, there are occasional instances of the operation of the last principle. Many respectable people have a horror of the cheap, even where there is no fear of the nasty.

THE *Daily Athenaeum* of Hyderabad, though in its 9th volume, is a paper with which our acquaintance has just begun. Nor are we disposed to regret the circumstance: we can not have lost by the past, as we do not remember the paper mentioned before in the press to

any purpose. It cannot be so now. The present management will make itself felt. The Hyderabad *Athenaeum* can no longer be the obscure journal that it has been. Already it is the smartest thing of its kind going. The Deccan ought to be proud of our contemporary. If local society had not been too stupefied by the upas influence of the great Pagoda Tree, it would know how to appreciate the light and wholesome literature that is supplied to it. A true wag is a rare bird and ought to be cherished when found. Such a genial spirit is now at Chudderghaut, coining his brain into jokes for the benefit of Hyderabad and India. We take one of them from the issue of the 3rd March:—

"We are authoritatively informed we were in error in supposing that Sir Asman Jah was ever Prime Minister to any other Potentate but his present Master. We feel bound to accept the contradiction as gracefully as it has been given. We hope the authorities won't trouble to apologise. We are always open to conviction—except on a charge of libel."

OUR contemporary, we fear, will have many troubles from the sensitiveness of the Court. Symptoms of puzzlement are already apparent:—

"We regret we are precluded by a severe attack of Lord Duffin the 'imperative private reasons' from accepting a kind invitation to a game of chess with His Highness this evening. We have requested Mr. Forbes, who is a good player, and who doesn't set so much store upon his head as we do, to be the bearer of this apology, and to act as our substitute. The funeral will take place at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning."

NOTHING daunted, Sir Wag follows up in this vein:—

"A recent ruling of the Government of India has struck the Bee Yeas and Yem A's dumb with consternation. The only device left, to console them, is to make them all C. I. E.'s. What's the use of a literary degree that is to be 'for the future omitted from all notifications in the *Gazette of India*'? This last camel has broken the straws' back, and was all that was wanted to complete Lord Dufferin's unpopularity with a certain class of the community."

AN extraordinary case of baffled suicide at the capital of Hungary has been the sensation of the hour. Janos Meryassi had lived far too long for his means of supporting himself and family. All other resources being exhausted, he descended to the street—not the highway. For though he shrunk from no toil, he aspired not to the knight-hood of industry. He may have made himself a bit of a public nuisance, but was no danger to passengers. Thus for the last ten years has he gone on, commencing with his seventy-fourth year. He is a grand fellow, this beggar. There is little likelihood of Janos' galloping straight to—the Equator, say, or the bowels of the earth or any other equally intolerable furnace—even though provided with the fleetest thorough-bred. This poor man begged not for himself alone but supported his aged parents. They are a venerable family, the father 115 years of age, the mother 110 years, and the son 84, and thoroughly respectable. There are ups and downs, in life, however, even the life of a beggar. The depression of trade lowered the temperature of the atmosphere of benevolence. Perhaps modern progress—political economy and the new morality too quenched the spirit of charity. Poor Janos' collections became small by degrees and ominously less, until they ceased. He starved, as a consequence, but what was worse, saw father and mother starve. This was the straw that broke the camel's back. Our noble beggar could not stand this long. The brave man's courage failed at this point. He resolved to flee from the desperate battle, though his parents should be left in the lurch. One day he made a clean leap from the Bridge of Sighs connecting Buda and Pesth. Happily, he was not unobserved. A Member of the Hungarian Parliament gallantly rescued him.

VARIOUS methods are adopted in Europe, by individuals as well as communities, for keeping down numbers. The most successful of these Malthusians has appeared in Hungary, in the shape of a possibly fair but certainly hot soft one. Her method is simplicity itself—sharp and summary. We cannot say she deserved success, but she commanded it nevertheless, for a long series of years, and it was only by an accident that she came to trouble. Even then she can hardly be said to have failed. If she ends with getting her due, as we devoutly trust she will get—on the gallows—she will have only succeeded the better—crowning her Malthusian career by any reduction in population.

This tigress in human form is a peasant woman of Hungary who, having cultivated the most advanced doctrines of political economy, had lately taken to religion. Desirous of joining the religious sect of

the Nazareans, she called upon a priest at Zenta, and, in accordance with the rule of the Order that converts must make a clean breast of all sins committed throughout their life, she made the following horrible statement :—

"I have had eight children, and have killed them all. My first, a boy, named Victor, born in 1874, was four months old when he died. Another was born in 1879. I forget what we called him, but he did not live more than a few days. On February 29th, 1880, I had twins, Peter and Rosa. I killed them a week after their birth. My daughter Juliana was born April 11th, 1881, and was dead two days later. Agnes, of whom I was confined on March 29th, 1882, also lived only a few days. On May 5th, 1883, I again had twins; one was still-born and I killed the other a month afterwards. My last child came in May, 1884. I disposed of it in two days. I poisoned all my children with a decoction of poppies. They were all previously baptised. I did not want any children. My husband knew nothing of what I had done. I lived on bad terms with him, and wanted to vex him."

Bad as this wretched woman had been, the Nazarean *pudre* to whom she came for what crumb was possible to her from faith or superstition, was worse. He quietly handed her over to the Police. She was a true penitent now, and she renewed her confession before the magistrates.

G. R. MATHEW ARNOLD is still doling out to his countrymen his *it* *at* *ences* in America. The only things he found cheap were oysters the *ce*. We cannot answer for the first and do not care for it. We the *ily* believe what has been said about the second. Before an in- it *vable* Destiny consigned us bound hand and foot to the un- th *ertainties* and inequalities of the abomination of made ice, we in the *far* East were supplied with the natural product from the Western Continent. Sometimes there used to be a glut in the market. On one occasion, attracted by the monopoly enjoyed by the Tudor Company, a competitor appeared with another ice ship in the Hoogly. He reduced the price to half an anna per pound. Then Mr. Ladd, of the Tudor Company, offered to supply his constituents for nothing. They had only to send a servant with a blanket and a name to get ice to any reasonable quantity free of charge.

Mr. Arnold is a man of delicate sensibilities, and he was bored by the American Loconomenology.

"Brigsville, Grigsville, Jacksonsville," and so on *ad infinitum*—"comes on the ear of a cultivated person like the incessant cutting of pins." Happily, it was not all wrong on the other side of the water. "The Americans do not persist as we do in making invidious distinctions between persons by the use, for some, of the affix 'Esquire,' a term which came from the great frippery shop of the middle ages."

THERE is something like an instinctive partiality throughout the world to Physiognomy. It is an art that seems to come easy to man. Every body believes in it; nay, everybody professes it, more or less, consciously or unconsciously. For, though no two men's systems might agree, all men are at one in this that they all judge others at first sight—assign them different characters without knowledge, before there has been opportunity to observe behaviour or actions. But whatever truth there may be in this summary procedure, it is clearly being abused. The art is being discredited by pedants and professionals. Face-reading is slippery enough, even in the living subject. But there is no end to modern progress or—pretension, and some have set themselves up photograph readers. They are such mighty and unerring physiognomists, that they will tell your character from a common *carte-de-visite*. The illustrated journals now often keep one of such cheap prophets on their establishment, much as American papers are understood to keep a fire-eater to receive personal chastisement on the editor and fight his actual battles, whose duty it is to humour the constituents by reading their characters from their photos. It must be the veriest guess-work, seeing that, besides the inherent difficulties of the subject, photography itself is a most unreliable art. No physiognomist with a care for reputation should hazard it on anything short of a good painter's representation. But in these days of competition, a man cannot always afford to be particular, and luckily there are fools enough.

It is never too late to mend, and the *Indian Mirror* is not so incorrigible as people take it. It formerly eschewed publicans and sinners of all kinds and sexes. But with age came wisdom and it took wine under its protection. And now it has taken to patronising another institution of the Devil. We read in the *Indian Mirror* of last Sunday :—

"We are glad to see that the proprietor of the Emerald Theatre in Beadon Street intends holding performances to-night in aid of the fund

that is now being raised for the erection of a tombstone of the late Mr. Michael Modu Shudun Dutta. From their programme it appears, that *Meghnad Bakh* will be put on the stage, to-night, and we doubt not, that frequenters of stage will muster strong at to-night's performance, with a view to show their appreciation of the great distinguished poet's services to the cause of our national literature."

THE Emperor William of Germany has at last paid the debt of nature, dying at the advanced age of 91, at 8½ on Friday morning. The ailing Crown Prince on whom the succession devolves, had already been called up from San Remo, and was to reach Berlin to-day. Bismarck was also called.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1888.

THE PIONEER AND OURSELVES.

WE are so intimately identified with the author that we have refrained from noticing any notices of Mookerjee's *Travels*, or else we might have had a genial laugh at the Madras critic who has written himself down a Dryasdust and is vexed that the book, published about the time when the great Congress was holding at their city, contains not a word about it, and was equally silent about social reform as about political regeneration. Of course the feeble and fatuous malice of "that intellectual eunuch" of a critic nearer home who in the *Calcutta Review* has classed the *Travels* with the Biography, in a strange lingo, of the late Mr. Justice Onoocool Chunder Mookerjee, as the two most characteristic works of Bengali scholarship and genius, would have deserved a regular, if summary, chastisement. At the same time we might have explained the one or two minor objections which may be discerned in the stream of unbroken kindness and appreciation which the book has evoked. We might, for instance, to refer to the late brilliant criticism from the City of the Zamorin, urge the moral purpose and esthetic justification of the author's introducing the petty circumstance of his helping his poor chairmen to fill in the Postal forms for making their little remittances home. These are matters of no great moment, however, and whatever they may be worth, they are more the author's concern whose reputation or whose vanity they might touch, than the journalist's. There was one criticism, however, which directly involved us in controversy, but which we have apparently avoided. The *Pioneer* in its review wrote :—

".....his reflections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Saunbhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him. In his philosophical reflections he beseeches his brother journalists not to 'throw their vitriol ink about' without examining and making sure of what they are about. 'Weigh well your words, think of their effect, and for God's sake, remember your responsibility.' Stick to facts; never invent calumnies; never imagine grievances. Excellent advice truly; would that it could be followed; and yet we have an unpleasant feeling that in a certain journal with which Mr. Mookerjee's name is popularly associated these precepts are not followed. We remember a certain remark some months ago about the Oudh Talukdars and their attitude towards Sir Alfred Lyall; and also a cock-and-bull story about Colonel Marshall and a high spirited native sentry at Hyderabad. There was certainly a dash of vitriol in the ink that was then thrown about."

Surely, the force of perversity could no further go. That strange medley of a criticism can only be explained on the charmingly simple principle of

I do not like thee Doctor Fell,

The reason why I cannot tell.

But this I know full well

I do not like thee Doctor Fell.

The Baboo is not to expect mercy for even that unconscious imitation which it is said to be the best and most effective flattery. This poor author will seem

to most of his own countrymen to be quoting from the *Pioneer*. Yet the *Pioneer* goes to the most absurd lengths in order to humble him. Perhaps, he is rightly served! Thus are the Natives who turn Christians from conviction served by European fellow-Christians. The Sermon on the Mount repeated by Baboo lips grate on the ears polite of many Anglo-Indians.

In vulgar Billingsgate, specially in this country, the relations on both the mother's and the father's side of the victim are not spared. Our contemporary, in somewhat similar fashion, not only introduces into its review the author's professional career, but rakes up the incidents of its past. That is far from fair. A book is a book and is to be judged as such and by itself, without travelling out of its four corners. It is no objection to a book that its author does not practise its doctrines. It is alas! notoriously easier to preach than to practise good counsel. Even the *Pioneer* sometimes offers sound orthodox views which its general conduct belies. How difficult it must be for natives to please their European fellow-subjects when an author might be reproached for inconsistency on such a pretence!

Leaving the author, we come to ourselves. We are quite prepared to join issue with our contemporary. It would have been more convenient had he stated his charge in an independent form, without introducing it by the back-door and in another, for us rather awkward, connection. Then we would have been compelled to notice it sooner. Be that as it may, the charge is not a light one. It affects the credit of the Native Press. It affects in especial the conduct of a paper which is not only respectable in the eyes of the public but which, according to the lights vouchsafed to us, seeks to maintain the highest standard of honor and morality. It may go wrong, but never of evil or malice aforethought. It uses strong language from conviction or the need of making impression, and it employs bitter language by way of reprisal, sometimes as the only expression of self-respect for a subject race, always with a view to legitimate discipline. Beyond that, its very prejudices—for who is there that can honestly and intelligently say that he has none?—are not bitter, and are always amenable to reason. It has no animosities, personal or public. Without either party ties or party predilections, it is a native journal, but no class organ. It is not provincial. Of Bengal by accident, it is simply Indian. Under Hindu conduct, it is more Islamic than many Mussulmans turned out of our Colleges. Its politics are national and loyal, in a statesmanlike, not a stump-oratorical sense. It believes in the permanence of British Power in India as a condition *sine qua non* of order and progress until the final fusion of the native and foreign races into a harmonious body politic and society. It were preposterous to suppose that the conductor who, though an Indian, thinks in English, owes his culture and all the peace and possibilities of his country to Europe, whose highest hourly delight is in communion with European thought, could entertain aught but the highest respect for Europeans and the highest appreciation of all that is best in European society.

If such a paper stinks in the *Pioneer's* nostrils, our contemporary is to be pitied. It is a case for Sir Julius Vogel and Sir Mackenzie Morell. It has an unpleasant feeling that Mr. Mookerjee's excellent precepts are not followed in *Reis and Rayyet*. And it proceeds to proof. It adduces two instances. The

first count in the indictment is founded on a remark we are alleged to have made some months ago about the Oudh Talookdars' attitude towards Sir Alfred Lyall. The *Pioneer* is a more careful reader of our columns evidently than we are rememberers of our own. So far as we can call to mind, we never wrote a leading article on Sir Alfred Lyall's relations with Oudh, or any in which the subject was introduced. We did not, we believe, notice it in a leading note, but at the end of a small paragraph of news, we disposed of the Talookdari adulation to the retiring Governor, and that in a line. We simply, by a wink as it were, suggested its unreality. This is the head and front of our offending. The other count rests on a scene between Colonel Marshall and a sentry at the palace, Hyderabad, which we alone in the press published. Upon these two cases our credit for honourable journalism of sweetness and light is compromised with our contemporary. This is a hard measure, and is reserved only for the native press, we suppose. If on a couple of such occasional instances, a newspaper were to forfeit all claim to consideration, it would be hard with the wisest and the most lucky. Even admitting blame in those cases, where is the evidence of vitriol-throwing? Both instances are statements of fact, and their publication does not necessarily imply dishonesty or evil disposition. Perhaps the first is a matter of opinion. There is still less reason to be ashamed of it. If we suspected the genuineness of the demonstration in Oudh, we had our reasons for so doing. Our contemporary might now learn that we were not far wrong. The second is pure news, in every sense. Received as news, it was communicated as news. The vitriol is only in the *Pioneer's* mind. The news was contradicted officially from Hyderabad and we published the contradiction. And yet the *Pioneer* persists in feeling vitriol. If the account was a cock and bull story, does the *Pioneer* really imagine we concocted it to the Colonel's discredit? But it was no cock and bull story at all, but actual fact. We were a good deal surprised when it was officially contradicted by telegraph, but we were not convinced of our error. We knew we had not invented the account and we had no reason to think that our informant had hoaxed us. Accordingly, we telegraphed back to have the true facts. A rejoinder came saying that the whole story was without foundation, nothing of the kind having happened. We had now no alternative but to publish the contradiction. But so strong was our instinct on the subject that we did nothing more. There was no withdrawal from our side and no expression of regret for what we had originally related. And we were right in the course we adopted, hazardous as it was. The *Pioneer* must have received a similar communication, and it was in reliance on it that it, in December last, still harped on the falsity of the story. Since then, our contemporary has, we believe, grown wiser. Of late, there are signs that it has been disillusioned about Hyderabad affairs. After having helped to make Colonel Marshall's reputation, our contemporary is charging its erstwhile protégé with all manner of obscurantism and virtual absolutism. It must have substantial grounds for such an extraordinary change of front. It need not be ashamed of the inconsistency. There is no real shame except in dishonesty and falsehood. Now that the old spell is broken and its eyes are opened, will it enquire and tell the world whether that incident related in this humble native journal was true or false?

HYDERABAD.

And now we may as well dispose of here some other Hyderabad topics.

The most important event of late in Hyderabad or in India, has been the famous offer of the Nizam of sixty lacs to the British Government towards the defences in the North Western Frontier. We were indignant at the low intrigue and pettifogging dodge, and, in few but unmistakable words, denounced the whole transaction. We protested against its adoption. We suspected its character and were alarmed at its consequences. We could not believe the Nizam, boy as he is, to have, in any sane moment, been a party to such a proposition. Even Asiatic princes do not make ducks and drakes with their money, unless there is any personal pleasure to be derived from the waste. The Nizam cannot afford to pay the sum. The country would be ruined if it attempted to pay it by three instalments. Nor has the Nizam any right to appropriate the revenues of the State in that way. Apart from these questions, it would be a bad precedent, demoralising alike to the Native States and the Imperial Power. On these several weighty grounds, we condemned the Hyderabad bait, and we appealed to the Viceroy personally to save the Empire from such a scandal of taking it. If the offer was not strictly taken—in the jingling coin—it has not been refused either. The compliment was accepted, and an elaborate letter of thanks from the Viceroy was sent to the Nizam through Colonel Marshall who had come all the way to Simla on this theatrical mission.

The juggler who brings news of endless money to an impoverished ruler, is sure of the most extravagant "ovation." Witness Bubble Law at the Court of France! The Hyderabad Cagliostro marched as the Conquering Hero through the land, and was received with almost sovereign consideration.

The Nizam's loyalty, of course, shamed the other Princes into similar offers. The Government of India proceeded to devise the best way in which the gift could be taken and utilised. Various schemes have been suggested and discussed between the Governments in India and England. Before any have been determined upon, grave doubts intervene whether the rupees will ever be forthcoming. In fact, the whole thing has been a huge humbug. The *Statesman* first got scent of the real facts of the case. Day after day, as is its wont, it kept hammering away at it. The Government at last was constrained to look into it. We believe it has some ground for suspicion. And now the *Pioneer* itself is, after having extolled the offer and abused us for casting doubt on its reality, backs out of it. Well may our contemporary do so. It was a thing of a kind from which respectability must ever shrink. Since the Red Treaty through which the British first walked into power in India, there has not been so great an imposition.

NOTES FROM GUJERAT.

Surat, Mar. 5th

The recent Municipal Elections that took place at Surat are worthy of something more than a passing notice. Because of the sad demise of Rao Sahib Daolat Rao Surbhai, a Municipal Commissioner for Ward No. 2 had to be elected. Three candidates, viz., Messrs. A. G. Almond, Manchershaw P. Kaikobad, and Bhikharidas Vakil, entered the lists; but Mr. Almond came off successful, although Mr. Manchershaw exerted himself to the best of his energy. It is gratuitously urged now and again by some of the Anglo-Indians that the Indian *bête noire* harbours an aversion to everything that is English. But let such an one see, with his eyes wide open, what an impartial view of affairs the

natives generally take. A European gentleman, who is a representative of commerce, is elected in preference to a native of position and local influence, and well-known for his public spirit and intelligence. Will it serve to silence them?—it is enough to knock the bottom out of their anti-native movement.

The ill-devised *ukase* of the Bombay Government, just communicated to the authorities of the Civil Hospitals and Provincial Dispensaries, will, it is feared, operate very badly on the sick poor of the Province of Gujerat. By it the doctors are authorised to charge a consultation fee of 8 annas, and three annas for the medicine prescribed, to persons earning Rs. 40 per mensem, or those paying Income Tax. Some three months previously the Bombay Government had asked of the different Municipalities as to the advisability of introducing such an ill-judged measure. The consensus of opinion was it is ill-advised to levy fees on a people whose impecuniosity is well-known, and withal, who have just commenced to crusade against the old religious prejudices and superstitions which made it binding upon them not to resort to any relief which could be had by making use of the English drugs. Another argument brought forward by the municipalities to prove its unjustification was that these dispensaries already received aid in the shape of grants from the municipal coffers, which are maintained by levying taxes upon the people. It is a matter of considerable regret, that in these days of rigid economies and retrenchments, Government should make it a point of raising the wind out of the institutions, marked out by charity for her own, and originally intended for administering comfort to the afflicted. In Lord Reay the Province has secured a very humane and sympathising ruler; and it breaks upon the people as a thunderstorm when they come to know that the same ruler has concerted measures which refuse to take ken of their pain and suffering. It seems that somehow or other the Governor gave too much importance to the fallacious fact that the rich, too, make a more than free use of the Hospitals designed for the poor. But it is not only the people will suffer most; the doctors, too, will be put to a deal of inconvenience and trouble before they will be able to find out whether the patient in search of relief earns Rs. 40 per mensem, or more or less. Thus you will see that the whole machinery is thrown out of order for the sake of false economy. Time alone will show whether the action proves a success or a failure.

Another official announcement, just issued by the Government to the effect that henceforward all free-studentships in the High schools should be abolished, is equally unwise, and will, it is feared, tend to lay the axe at the very root of all kinds of education. The un wisdom of this untoward action of the Government is more than clearly proved when we sit to think that in Bombay education is difficult of attainment unless we incur a deal of expense; and hard-up as the Guzeratis are, every one of them is not expected to undergo this heavy expense. At present it is considered scarcely to be within reach of even the middle class, of course not to talk of the poor. It is admitted on all hands that the fees charged in the Government High Schools are a great bar to those who are in earnest quest of knowledge. In the face of these prohibitive influences already at work, to make the poor pay for their education means nothing more than to refuse them to furnish with that intellectual equipment which is so very necessary in these days of civilization and keen competition. It is not known on what grounds Government have thought fit to arrest the intellectual development of the country. I grieve to add that such a measure should have seen light in the time of such a renowned educationalist as Lord Reay. Freeships are not such a heavy charge upon the exchequer as may admit of any and whatever justification on the part of the Government of the injudicious measure which has for its object the boycotting of the poor from the humanising influence of liberal education.

Amidst the mechanical din of political controversy, the Gaekwar's return to Baroda does not require to be overlooked. The Maharajah's triumphal entry, with a new handle to his name, will ever remain a red letter day in the annals of Baroda. The demonstrations of the people in honour of his return had been as sincere as they had been spontaneous, and clearly showed in what regard and respect he is held by them. The Maharajah's engaging look, learning, and ready condescension to the poorest as to the richest, have earned for him a popularity which a Prince may well like to emulate. The sole aim of undertaking this grand tour was simply to recruit his impaired health, but his subjects eagerly wish that His Highness will not fail to introduce into his progressive State those enlightened and salutary measures which he had occasion to observe with his own eyes in Europe. They expect that the Maharajah will confer on them lasting boons, such as will afford them facilities for creating new arts and industries, stimulate trade and commerce, found and foster technical education, bring in sound sanitation, and free them from the unnecessary burden of heavy taxation, and many other hardships. When the ruler of Baroda begins in right earnest the work of these reforms, we shall set down that the journey was made not for "the conquest in England of the star that now adorns his breast," but was a self-imposed task for the good of the subjects.

SUMMARY OF THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

General.—1. That no proposal can be supported as sound in itself or likely to be a final solution of the problems embraced in the present enquiry, which involves a departure from the principle enacted in Section 87 of the Statute 3 and 4 Will. IV., Cap. 85, or from the policy set forth in Her Majesty's Proclamation of 1858.

The Competitive System.—2. That admission to the branch of the Civil Service known as the Covenanted Civil Service should continue on the system established by Section 32 of the Statute 21 and 22 Vic., Cap. 106, *i. e.*, by competitive examination open to all natural born subjects of Her Majesty and held in accordance with Regulations made from time to time under the Statute. 3. That it is inexpedient to hold an examination in India for the Covenanted Civil Service simultaneously with the examination in London. 4. That the minimum and maximum limits of age for Native candidates at the open competitive examination held in England should be nineteen and twenty-three years respectively. 5. That the chief vernacular languages of India and the Persian language should not be added to the subjects of the open competitive examination in England, but should be included among the special studies to be entered upon by the successful candidates preparatory to duty in India. 6. That Her Majesty's Civil Service Commissioners should be invited to take into their consideration the question of the adequacy of the marks at present assigned at the open competitive examination to the Sanskrit and Arabic languages, and the suitability of the standard exacted. 7. That the proposal to fix the number of Native candidates to be selected by competitive examination in London and to select them by an examination separate from that of European candidates, and especially adapted, as regards limits of age and otherwise, to the conditions of Natives of India, does not commend itself to the Commission, which is of opinion that the competition in England should remain open as heretofore without restriction or distinction, as by the present law provided, to all natural-born subjects of Her Majesty of whatever race or colour or creed or place of birth who can satisfy the preliminary conditions prescribed in the rules framed by the Civil Service Commissioners, and that selection should be made impartially and indifferently from among the candidates according to their order of merit as ascertained in one and the same examination. 8. That the rule which admits of selected candidates for the Civil Service, after completion of their two years' probation, remaining an additional year in England for the purpose of taking a University degree, is inconvenient as disturbing the annual recruitment for the several Provinces of India; that it is a departure from the principle that the general education of students should be completed before and not after they enter upon the special studies designed to fit them for duty in India; and that to expend the revenues of India in helping candidates who, having passed their period of preliminary training successfully, are pronounced qualified for service in India, to complete their general education is an indefensible arrangement. 9. That the general conditions of service accorded to officers of the Covenanted Civil Service, who are recruited in England, do not appear to be in any way suitable to Natives of India obtaining office under the Statutory Rules or otherwise appointed in India.

The Statutory Service.—10. That the existing Statutory system has failed to fulfil the expectations anticipated from it; that it is for sufficiently good reasons condemned, not only by particular sections of the Native community, but also by the very large majority of officials, both European and Native, who have had practical experience of its working; that it should be abolished, and that Section 6 of the Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3, should be repealed.

The Covenanted or Imperial Service.—11. That in the present circumstances of the country, the claims of Natives of India to higher and more extensive employment in the public service, and the admission of competent Natives of each Province of India to a due proportion of the posts heretofore reserved for the Covenanted Civil Service, can be best provided for by reducing the Covenanted Civil Service to a *corps d'élite*, by limiting its numbers to what is necessary to fill the chief administrative appointments of the Government, and such a number of the smaller appointments as will ensure a complete course of training for junior Civilians, and by transferring a corresponding number of appointments to a local service to be separately recruited in each Province of India. 12. That the use of the term "Covenanted Civil Service of India" should be discontinued, and that the term should be replaced by the expression "Imperial Civil Service of India." 13. That the members of the Imperial Civil Service of India should be bound to serve wheresoever and in whatsoever capacity the Government may see fit and should be eligible for any appointment for which the Government considers them qualified. 14. That no change in principle should be made in the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, which directs that all vacancies in certain offices shall, save under special circumstances, be filled up from amongst the Covenanted Civil Servants of the Crown in India. 15. That, subject to the arrangements in force for recruiting from the Army Staff Corps in the Punjab and Assam, the Schedule attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, should be so extended as to include analogous appointments in those and all other Non-Regulation Provinces. 16. That the number of appointments reserved in the Schedule attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, should be reduced,

and that the Schedule recommended in Appendix N. to this Report should be adopted. 17. That if the *cadre* of the Covenanted Civil Service is larger than would be required under the proposals now made, the Government should, in the future recruitment for the Covenanted Service, have regard to the reduced Schedule in order to give due effect to those proposals; and that regard should further be had to the fact that there are some appointments outside the Schedule which it will probably be the policy of the Government usually, though not exclusively, to fill from the Imperial Service and others to which members of the Imperial Service will only occasionally be appointed. 18. That a provision should be inserted in the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, enabling the Secretary of State in Council, with the concurrence of a majority of members present at a meeting, to remove appointments or classes of appointments from the Schedule, or to include them in the Schedule, as may seem desirable from time to time, provided that no such order shall take effect until it has, with the reasons for making it, been laid for ninety days before both Houses of Parliament. 19. That Section 3 of the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, should be so amended as to provide for special appointments being made to offices specified in the Schedule on account of exceptional merit and ability proved in the public service, and to judicial offices specified in the Schedule on account of exceptional merit and ability proved in active practice as a barrister, advocate, or pleader of a High Court, as well as "under the special circumstances of the case." 20. That Section 4 of the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, should be amended and supplemented as follows:—(a) the period within which the pleasure of the Secretary of State in Council should be expressed should be six months; (b) in the event of the pleasure of the Secretary of State in Council not being expressed within six months, it should be declared that approval is to be presumed; and (c) in the event of the appointment being disapproved, the law should declare that no official acts performed by the officer, until he receives notice of such disapproval, shall on that ground be held invalid. 21. That in filling up the higher appointments which it is now proposed to exclude from the Schedule of 1861 regard should be had to the claims of officers of the Covenanted Civil Service who competed in or before the year 1870, and also to the claims of officers belonging to the Army Staff Corps or Uncovenanted Service who were appointed to the ranks of the several Commissions in India prior to that year.

The Provincial and Subordinate Services.—22. That the proportion of judicial and revenue appointments excluded from the Schedule attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, should be gradually amalgamated with the higher appointments in the Executive and Judicial Departments of the present Uncovenanted Service and should be recruited locally. 23. That local recruitment should be made separately by the Local Governments of the several Provinces to meet their own special requirements, and that the service so recruited should be called the "Provincial Civil Service." 24. That members of the Imperial and Provincial Services should, as far as possible, be put on a footing of social equality, and that, when they occupy similar offices, they should be graded together in the official precedence list. 25. That below the Provincial Service there should be a lower service to be called the "Subordinate Civil Service"; that in the Executive Department the line of division between the Provincial and Subordinate Services may be conveniently drawn between, on the one hand, the appointments of Deputy Collectors or Extra Assistant Commissioners, and, on the other hand, the appointments of Tahsildars, Mamlatdars, or Mukhtyarkars; and that, as regards the Judicial Department, the line should be determined, separately, by each Local Government for each Province, subject to the sanction of the Government of India. 26. That the Provincial Service should be filled up partly by promotion from the Subordinate Service and partly by recruitment. 27. That, in view of the probability of promotion from the Subordinate Service to the Provincial Service, the rules for the recruitment of the Subordinate Service in each Province should be carefully revised in such a way as to adapt them to the altered circumstances which will be introduced if the general recommendations of the Commission are accepted; that the greatest care should be exercised in the selection of Tahsildars and similar classes of officers, and that Tahsildars should not be appointed without careful preliminary training in a post which will fit them for the duties of the higher office. 28. That, for the purpose of the recruitment of the Provincial Service, no uniform system applicable to all Provinces can at present be recommended, but that a system of open competition should be adopted wherever the Government of India considers it not inexpedient, and that, where open competition is considered unsuitable, a system of competition among candidates previously selected is preferable to a system of nomination, provided that the number of candidates selected for each vacancy is sufficient to make the competition a real one. 29. That in regard to first appointments to the Judicial branch from the ranks of barristers, advocates, or pleaders, competition would be out of place; but that no barrister, advocate, or pleader should be so appointed who has not been in the active practice of his profession for at least three years, and is not qualified by such a knowledge of the vernacular language as is required on the part of other persons before first appointment to the Provincial Service. 30. That no person should be considered eligible for recruitment in the Provincial Ser-

vice unless he furnishes satisfactory evidence—(a) that he is not over twenty-five years of age (except in the case of barristers, advocates, or pleaders appointed to the Judicial branch otherwise than by competitive examination); (b) that he has attained a prescribed preliminary standard of education, and especially of qualification in one of the vernacular languages of the Province in which he is to be employed. The vernacular standard should be a high one, involving a thorough knowledge of the language and ability to write and read the written character with facility; and the evidence required should ordinarily be either a certificate of having passed in the vernacular language and literature by the highest standard of the vernacular school examination, or passing that standard before a Board of Examiners appointed for the purpose of the examination; (c) that he is of sound health, good physique, and active habits; and (d) that he is of good character. 31. That all persons appointed to the Provincial Service by recruitment should be subject to a period of probation or training during which time their appointment should be probationary or provisional only, unless in special cases the Government considers such probation or training unnecessary. 32. That the Government of India should retain power in very special cases and under prescribed conditions to make direct appointments to offices in the higher grades of the Provincial Service. 33. That, in order to provide a sufficient guarantee of fitness, the exercise of this power in the case of the Judicial branch should be confined to registrars, advocates, or pleaders of the High and Chief Courts, who are suitable in other respects and have shown distinguished ability in the exercise of their profession for a period of not less than ten years, but that in the case of any such occasional appointment the qualifications described above in regard to a thorough knowledge of the vernacular should be fully insisted upon. 34. That the recruitment of the Provincial Service should be in all cases made under rules to be sanctioned by the Government of India, such rules being published for general information and republished annually in the Local Government Gazettes. 35. That in the High Courts of Calcutta and Bombay the number of Judges selected from the Judicial branch of the Provincial Service or from advocates or pleaders of the High Courts should be increased, and that a similar course should be pursued in regard to the High Court at Madras in the event of the strength of that Court being increased to six Judges. 36. That, if the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 104, is amended, advocates of High Courts should be expressly declared to be eligible for the appointment of Judges of the High Courts. 37. That the orders of the Secretary of State and of the Government of India, passed in 1879, which forbid the appointment without previous sanction of persons other than Natives of India to offices carrying salaries of Rs. 200 a month or upwards in certain Departments of the Uncovenanted Service, should be cancelled; and that, when it is considered necessary to recruit Europeans for the Provincial Service otherwise than under the published rules, the recruitment should be made in Europe and by Her Majesty's Secretary of State. 38. That it is inexpedient to lay down a rule restricting the recruitment for the Provincial Service to residents of the Province concerned; but that, while recruitment for the Provincial Service should be open to all natural-born subjects of Her Majesty, the Government of India should prescribe from time to time such limitations in respect of residence or otherwise as may be considered expedient, and that, as a general rule, recent residence of at least three years in a Province

should be an essential condition of admission to the Provincial Service. 39. That the grades of pay in the Provincial Service and the pay of appointments to be held by its members, together with the general conditions of such service as to leave and retiring annuity, should be fixed on independent grounds and bear no relative proportion to those of the Imperial Service. 40. That the pay of officers of the Provincial Service appointed specially to high office for exceptional merit and ability, on the rare occasions on which the Secretary of State may exercise the powers reserved to him, should receive special consideration at the time; and that for appointments made directly by Her Majesty the pay and the rules governing leave and pension should be the same for all incumbents whether belonging to the Imperial or the Provincial Service or appointed from outside the service of Government. 41. That with regard to appointments to which graded pay is not attached but which it may be intended usually to fill from the Provincial Service, the pay should be fixed with reference to what is required for the Provincial Service and not by a consideration of the pay which would be required for members of the Imperial Service when appointed. 42. That retrospective effect should not be given to alterations made in pension rules against the will of persons, being already in the service of the Government, who may be injuriously affected thereby; and that, when alterations are made, persons in the service should be allowed the option of adhering to the old rules or accepting the new rules as a whole with all their advantages and disadvantages. 43. That the recommendations of the Commission regarding the creation of a Provincial Service and the recruitment of that service are subject to due consideration for the rights of existing incumbents of all classes of appointments which may be affected by its proposals. 44. That Statutory Civilians in actual service should be absorbed into the Provincial Service in such positions as, having regard to the circumstances of each case, the Government of India may consider to be equitable. 45. That before the dismissal of any member of the Provincial Service, otherwise than on the result of a judicial investigation, he should be afforded an opportunity for enquiry under the law for the time being in force relating to enquiries into the behaviour of public servants.

[To be continued.]

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Alipore, 7th March 1888.

Sealed tenders are invited for the supply of Stores and Embroidery as may be required during the year 1888-89.

2.—Tenders will only be received on the printed forms, which are obtainable at this office, or may be seen at the office of this Paper. Blanks in the printed forms must be filled up correctly. Each tender must be accompanied by a Currency Note for Rs. 100 as earnest money.

3.—The lowest tender will not necessarily be accepted, and tenders may be accepted in whole or part.

4.—Any person whose tender may be accepted will be required to execute a bond and to give approved security for the due fulfilment of his contract, within one week from the date of acceptance of his tender, in default of which, his earnest money will be forfeited. The security will be calculated at 10 per cent on the contract.

5.—Any further information required may be obtained, and sealed patterns inspected at the Clothing Agency.

6.—Tenders will be opened by undersigned at noon on Wednesday the 21st March 1888 in the presence of such persons as may desire to attend.

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CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

SEALED tenders for supply of Miscellaneous Stores, during the quarter ending 30th June next, will be received by the Vice-Chairman at 2 P.M. on the 19th instant, and will be opened by him there and then in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend.

2. Forms of tender and lists of stores required can be had on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,
Superintendent of Stores.

8th March 1888.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Supply of Crushed Food for Cattle.

TENDERS for the supply of *Crushed Food for Cattle* for one year, from 1st April 1888 to 31st March 1889, are invited, and will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to the noon of the 15th March. Covers to be superscribed—"Tender for Crushed Food."

Specification and form of tender to be had on application at the office of the Health Officer.

Rupees 500 to be deposited as earnest money with each tender.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

3rd March 1888.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Supply of Straw and Hay for Gowkhanahs.

TENDERS for the supply of *hay and straw* for one year, from the 1st April 1888 to 31st March 1889, are invited, and will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to noon of the 15th March. Covers to be superscribed Tender for "Hay and Straw."

Specification and form of tender to be had on application at the office of the Health Officer.

Rs. 200 to be deposited as earnest money with each tender.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

Calcutta, 3rd March 1888.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

SEALED tenders for the supply of 3,25,000 cubic feet of indigenous stone, during the official year 1888-89, will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to 2 P.M. on the 15th instant, and will be opened by him there and then in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend.

2. The stone is to be obtained from Raj. mehal Hills, and to be of the best quality. Sample of stone can be seen at the Municipal Depots. The stone is to be broken so as to pass freely in all directions through a ring 2 inches in diameter, and to be delivered and stacked in the Municipal Depots at Baug Bazar and Nimtollah.

3. Each tender may be for 10,000 c. ft. or in multiples of that amount, and the rate per 100 c. ft. of stone delivered and stacked in the depots is to be stated in each tender, which must be accompanied by sample of stone in a sealed bag and earnest money of Rs. 120 for every 10,000 c. ft. of stone to be tendered for, is to be enclosed with the tender.

4. The parties, whose tenders may be accepted, must sign deeds of contract duly stamped and registered at their own expense.

5. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

6. Any further information required may be obtained on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,
Superintendent of Stores.

3rd March 1888.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so timing it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as an judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter

house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evident good nature, that even a stranger would receive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, who he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible..... The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Mutiny*; *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Income Tax*; *the Career of an Indian Princess*; *Her Highness the late Secundra Begum of Bhopal*; and the *Prince in India and to India* are publications which attracted considerable notice. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a bright faithful and interesting picture of native scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between

1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however calm and faithful. Let us hear what our author and say on the subject. We read:—[Extract.]

My sea is thus inimitably described. [Extract.]

He will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

We could cull many such gems. But space forbids it. We will, however, quote some passages of another kind. Our traveller, though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty. [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—The Tribune, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" hurts his sensibilities; a Hindu girl, bathing in the river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight: "a lady had such large languishing eyes!" "nothing if not philosophical, and his objections on this or that social and political subject are not without their moral. Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly Minister to the "last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa" and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—The Pioneer, Dec. 1887.

It may be well-known to all of our readers that Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee has

veteran editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* newspaper, has just published a book describing the four voyages that he made between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah when he had to go and to return from the latter place in the capacity of the minister to its prince. The literature yet produced in the English tongue by our own countrymen is very scanty and any sensible addition to it cannot well escape the attention of the public press. Much greater therefore should be the attention claimed on behalf of a book which comes from the pen of so well-known a writer in the field of Indian journalism as Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee. That gentleman's career as a writer fills nearly the last thirty years, and there has hardly been any subject of public importance during that long period which has not occupied his attention. Master of an inimitable racy style, with a vast store of classical allusions ever ready at the call, and possessing an infinite fund of humour, our author often enlivens every thing that he touches, and his peculiar strength lies in description. We therefore welcome the appearance of this book more especially as the subject is one which to make it interesting, requires a lively colouring and a rich, picturesque and imaginative description. There exist several books of travels written by eminent Englishmen, and every one of these differs perhaps, in their conception and plan of execution. Of these none was more widely read in the course of the last few years than Carlyle's reminiscences of an Irish Journey in 1849. That book is made up of extracts from diaries and the worst features of it are the bitter and caustic personal remarks interspersed throughout the book. However that may suit the polished and fashionable taste of England, in our country it would have been singularly out of place and we are glad that Babu Sambhu Chunder has confined himself to the description of those natural sceneries he passed through, and the means of travel in the distant and little-known regions of East Bengal. That the rivers of Bengal, with their circuitous and entangling courses do enshrine in them a deep spirit of poetry and are of sincere interest to the real man of imagination, is proved by the fact that Sir William Hunter, than whom a more accomplished man of letters never passed the best years of his life in Bengal, should have chosen the subject for his very interesting address at Oxford, the other day. The gentle waves, the gentler ripples, the grassy banks, the ever-entwining courses, the pleasant air, the sceneries on both sides make the rivers of Bengal a genuine thing of interest to those whose eyes are perpetually fed by the artificial gloss and dross of civilization and few could have set perhaps the loveliness of our rivers in better light than our accomplished author. His eloquent sentences, marching in regular order one after another, and embodying in their selves, every minute detail, that can lend to a scene its finest artistic effect, seem to place the reader in the very midst of sceneries described, and the man of leisure who would acquaint himself with the state of things in East Bengal, can hardly resort to a better book. The journeys which are described in this volume are certainly uneventful and though they correspond to facts as they furnish no interesting situation, no critical moments, to the seeker of intellectual excitement and this will no doubt constitute a serious objection to the book on the part of sensational seeking readers. None has however any thing to quarrel with the choice of a subject that any author may choose to write upon and none of the outside public can afford any explanation as to why the author should have preferred one subject to another. We think however there are one or two indications of bad taste. Still we welcome the appearance of this book and trust that it is but the first of a long series of works in writing which our author should spend the matured experience and the literary facility of a well-spent life.—Young Bengal, Feb. 2, 1888.

We owe an apology to Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee for the apparent negligence with which we have treated that delightful work of his—*Travels in Bengal*. Mr. Mookerjee, as almost every one knows, is one of the best English scholars in India; he writes as gracefully as does the most scholarly Englishman, and ample proof of this is afforded in the pages

of his book before us, which is an interesting narrative of four journeys,—“two trips to Tipperah and two trips back”—accompanied by historical, geographical, cartographical and many other—*ital* notes of the lands passed through. We confess we have been but through the first half of the work, and, as we have proposed to review it in two papers, we think our progress sufficient for present purposes. Our author has not, as far as we have read, met with those thrilling adventures we read of—oft with a certain amount of sneaking disbelief—in the average hunter's narratives or traveller's tales; peaceful as the bosom of a still lake were his journeyings in Bengal Proper. He carried no formidable weapons with him, save and except a rusty old gun which, when called into requisition once, refused to go off; and yet withal, few more delightful works of travel in India have we read than the one now under our hands. The charms of true yet eloquent description, the force of observation, the gift of seeing sermons in stones, are all possessed in a great degree by Mr. Mookerjee; and we are pleasantly surprised at the lively and fascinating manner in which he can palm off on the reader the dreariest incident of his trips. Mr. Mookerjee will forgive us if we mention that we think him a very gallant old gentleman—with the accent on the second syllable. He has evinced in his little work a weakness for describing the Beauties of Bengal with all the poetic ardours of a Strephon. Did we not know enough of the erudite and good old “Babu” editor, we might be inclined to call this particular weakness of his, in Carlyle's language—“a Byronism of taste.” Here is how he speaks of a beautiful damsel he saw disporting in the running waters of the beautiful Megna, at Sonargoan:—[Extract.]

But the above excerpt is not the best thing in the book by far. Although every line in it which we have gone over, is a line that we ourselves having written, would not wish to blot out, there are passages in it which surprise us and raise our hearts to a higher level by their eloquence, their beauty and wealth of expression. Running through the pages of *Travels in Bengal* is a vein of quiet humour—that humour which makes us fall in love with writers and tempts us to fly to them for solace in trouble, for a return of serenity in moments of vexation. Mr. Mookerjee has, in his work, added one more to the innumerable anecdotes relative to the fidelity of man's best friend among brutes—the dog. The sentinel duties of a canine phenomenon—Tom by name—are related in glowing terms, but we shall not rob the author of one of his finest plums by transferring it into our columns. This review, as we have already stated, is but the introductory one. In our next, or a little later, we shall take up Mr. Mookerjee's book where we are leaving it off, and make our readers a little more familiar with one of the cleverest native gentlemen of the day and with his interesting book on travels in Baboodom. Mr. Mookerjee, like all his fellow mortals, is human, and he has let us know this in his present work. How, we propose to state only in our second review. Would he however pardon us if we surrender to the temptation of finishing this up with his pretty remarks about Mooning and the Moon. After “the contending gods of the elements” had “left off” one night when our traveler was on the bosom of the Megna, he watched Luna issue from behind the clouds in all her grandeur and radiance. That sight, so delightful to the mind with a leaning towards the aesthetic and poetic, gave vent to the following: [Extract.]

Now, the above will prove a grand surprise to the European readers especially, who may perhaps be unkind enough to doubt that it was written by a “Babu” just as people have doubted that Shakespeare was really the author of *Shakespeare* and Tennyson the author of *Tennyson*. Mr. Mookerjee and we part here, but when work is done and we sit in our cosy arm-chair at home and watch, as is our wont, the blue smoke curl gracefully away from our pipe, we shall dream with waking eyes of the beautiful Megna and the damsels of Bengal, of the moon and the waters, and we know that we shall again take up the *Travels in Bengal* and satisfy our wish of getting to the end of such a pleasant little work.—The Malabar and Travancore Spectator, February 4, 1888.

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Womesh Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medical Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30th October, 1886."

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1888.

No. 315

THE STORY OF A K. S. I.

A Lay of Ind.

By A. B. C. S.

There was a Taluqdar so bold,
Who lived in Fyzabad,
And lots of silver and of gold,
Lacs of Rupees he had.
And houses fine and acres broad,
As far as eye could scan,
He got by force and kept by fraud,
He was a clever man.

And when within the Ballie Guard,
That little band at bay,
Through famine sore and battle hard,
Maintained the unequal fray,
He waited till it should be seen
Which way the fight would go,
For himself, not for his name,
Dared he to strike a blow.

He played that double game with skill,
Saved half a dozen lives.
He did not treat our babies ill,
Or massacre our wives.
But sent our foes all he could send,
Told us all we would know,
For he was neither faithful friend
Nor honorable foe.

So when we gained the victory,
He kept his rank and lands,
And officers of all degrees,
And Taluqdars of Oudh,
He knew so well how all to please,
Did sound his praises loud.
But though he had rank and honors high,
One thing still grieved him sore,
He had not got the K. S. I.
They gave to Bulrampore.

"Now since he has got that blessed thing,
I swear by Gungajee,
My name is Maun Sing,
A K. S. I. I'll be."

So to the Chief Commissioner
He went and thus did say—
"Give me the Star of India,
You dare not say me nay,
For, if I and my Taluqdars,
The fact you must confess,
Consent not to your precious laws,
Won't you be in a mess?

Then give me India's Star,
Which you so vainly want,
What I bid them they will do,
What I forbid they shant.
Thus will the Barons give consent,
And you may bless your fates,
And go and pass your bill of laws
And rent for Oudh estates."

So as the ox submissive kneels
And meekly bears the blows,
The youthful legislator feels
The hook within his nose.
So honest John in Simla's hills,
Unwilling but *lachar*,
So much he wished to pass those bills,
He gave the rogue the Star.

Ho! Senators wise in Council board,
Ho! soldiers brave in fight,
Join all due honors to accord,
To greet your new-made Knight,
For, he shall sit your ranks among,
At the great Oudh Durbar,
And glittering on that neck unhung
They'll hang the Exalted Star.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE triad of Scribes and Pharisees of native Indian politics of the day are Surrender Not, No render to Cæsar, and the latter's bottle-holder of a Bad show. The family name of the last is written with an initial B, but since he outraged the family and the family disowned him, he has been driven to the Grimm Law.

It is the age of economists, calculators, and statisticians. Here is a sample of—sweets to the sweet! It is said that one pound of honey is gathered by the bees from 90,000 to 225,000 flowers. Why not from 50,000 to 1,50,000?

It is the day of the publicans and sinners, likewise. In Holy Benares itself, at the late elections to the local board, an obscure Kalwar has been chosen against a wellknown gentleman, a Koolin Kayastha, Baboo Bireswar Mittra, a Fellow of the Calcutta University, Professor of Law at the Benares College, and one of the leaders of the local bar.

THE Agent to the Governor-General for Central India has been to Rutlam, to invest the Maharaja with the Order of the Indian Empire. In the course of his Durbar speech, Sir Lepel Griffin made the startling announcement:—

"In another part of Central India, it will, in a few days, be my painful duty to deprive a ruling Prince of all his administrative powers, in accordance with the sentence passed on him by the Supreme Government for the continued neglect and abuse of them."

The Holkar is believed to be the Prince in question.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE *Boorooa Mangal* at Benares was this year saddened by a disaster. In the ride of the united procession, a boat containing 20 or 30 souls was run down by three larger boats and sank immediately in a deep part of the river. It is satisfactory to learn that all were saved except 3.

THERE was a fire at the Ichapore Gun Powder Factory on Monday last, in one of the mill rooms. There was no loss of life and but little damage to property. The cause is being investigated.

DARBHANGA is out on a shooting excursion in his estate on the Koosi in North Purnea, leading the Duc d'Orleans, Prince Henri d'Orleans, the Duke of Montrose and the Marquis and Marquise de Mores. The party have taken the field with 80 elephants.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is touring through the Hazareebagh districts. On Saturday he held a Durbar for bestowing *khillats* on the Maharajas of Chota Nagpore and Sirgooja.

THE Government of India mourn the death of Emperor William thus in a *Gazette of India* Extraordinary issued in black in the afternoon of Thursday the 15th :—

"Official intelligence having been received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India that the funeral of His late Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany will take place on the 16th instant, the Governor-General in Council directs that as a mark of respect to His Imperial Majesty's memory, flags shall be hoisted half mast high from sunrise to sunset on that day in all forts and stations throughout India and that 91 guns, corresponding with the age of His late Imperial Majesty, shall be fired at all Head Quarters Stations."

THE *Englishman* quotes from a Bombay paper the following notable sentiment on the Emperor's death :—

"We remember nothing so pathetic in history, except, perhaps, the death of Socrates."

That is grand, beyond question, whatever it may mean. It is the Mesopotamia of obsequial, and, we may add, obsequious literature, and must act like Mother Seigel's Syrup on the surviving relations and friends of the Emperor—specially old Dowagers and Duchesses. It is difficult for ordinary mortals to perceive any point of resemblance between the death of the Emperor William and the death of Socrates, beyond the mere death. But genius conquers difficulties and it is the privilege of wit to discover analogies that escape the world.

IN the House of Commons, on the 14th, a Bill substituting solemn affirmations for oaths has been read a second time, with a majority of 100.

THE Goa Government have adopted the petroleum duty of British India.

THE escort of the Afghan Boundary Commission returning to India, reached, on the 5th instant, Jija which is about 34 miles from Salazar on the left bank of the Adiraskand on the road from Farah to Herat. All reported well.

H. H. the Sultan of Zanzibar is on a visit to the hot springs at Boshor on the Oman coast. He arrived at Muscat on the 4th instant, and left next day for Gobra without landing.—Press Commissioner.

THE Privy Council have upset the decision of the Judicial Commissioner, D. Duthoit, in the Bulrampore case. Their Lordships seem to be of opinion that the Senior Maharani alone is entitled to succeed and to adopt, the Junior Maharani receiving only an annuity of Rs. 25,000 for life. Their Lordships leave open the questions between the Senior Maharani and the son adopted by her.

THE *Mirror* does not mince matters—not even in compliments. When it has a chance of making a salaam to the great, it simply goes down flat on the floor on all fours. A recent editorial note concludes with an appeal thiswise :—

"but we hope Sir Steuart Bayley His Honor the present Lieutenant-Governor will not act upon the petition of the Ranis, who may have been again duped by interested parties."

THE following in the same issue of our contemporary is symptomatic of a graver aberration :—

"Mr. Grierson's paper on the Medical Literature of Hindustan, read

at the Vienna Congress, has been published by Mr. Alfred Holder, Editor of the 'Court and University Press,' Vienna."

Mr. Grierson is a wellknown scholar, who has made the study of Hindustani specially his own. But the public was not aware that he was a medical man into the bargain and had been devoting himself to the medical literature of Upper India. We are not sure whether it will be grateful to the *Indian Mirror* for this curious piece of news, seeing that the statement quoted is followed by the explanation that

"The essay has special reference to Tulsi Das, whose place in the history of India is of the first importance. As Mr. Grierson says, his *Ramayan*, apart from its literary merits, is a remarkable work from the fact of its universal acceptance by all classes of the Hindu community."

To parody a famous sentence of Tom Paine's, that explanation itself requires an explanation to make it intelligible. What possible connection may exist between Medicine and Tulsidas passes our understanding. Is the *Ramayan*—the Tulsidas at any rate—a work in medical literature? The Sphinx must solve her own riddle, as Emerson would say. The *Mirror* is the High Priest of Theosophy, and what appears like the raving of a mad man may be the right thing in occult science as interpreted by the rum chums Sen and Padshah.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has ordered exemption, from the 1st of 1888, of rice and grain, pulses of all kinds, seeds of all kinds, from payment of the terminal charge levied on goods conveyed by East Indian Railway into and from the station of Howrah. Passenger on the railway are also saved the terminal fees.

THE pretty little country town of 4,000 inhabitants called Mount Vernon, in the State of Illinois, was, on the 19th February, chastised very nearly out of existence altogether, like the "Cities of the plain." The cyclone was preceded by the usual thunder and rain for some time. Then the ominous low rumbling sound was heard, and presently a black cloud, like a dense concrete mass spreading from heaven to earth and seemingly filling all space, swept over the land by way of drawing the cap over the eyes of the victim. In the darkness the relentless deed was done—the city was nearly destroyed. It was the lashing of a moment. That blast of the hurricane had blown down a greater part of the town. Fire now completed the havoc of the other elements. The wretched inhabitants who could fled in dismay from the fury of storm and conflagration, leaving their fellows—men, women and children—crying for help. It was not till midnight, the wind and rain subsiding, their confusion abated and their courage and sense of duty revived and they proceeded in right earnest to rescue the wounded and the dying from the ruins, or save those who were encompassed by the flames which still raged and put down the fire.

Such was the "terrible tornado" as it is called. In the East, towards the Chinese coasts, it would have been a "simoom." In India, we have invented a word for circular atmospheric disturbance of intensity—"cyclone," which since 1864 we have come popularly to apply to all *tufans*, gales, hurricanes and storms of violence. That word has now been incorporated in the English dictionaries.

ONE of the least harmful dissipations of Oriental leisure is marrying or giving in marriage. The good Maharaja of Benares is at once too old and respectable to think of engaging in the Tamasha connubial *in propria persona*. But he is blessed with a son and, joy upon joy, that son has a son. The latter is a child of course, but in a country where contracts are made between wombs on the chance of sexual difference of their outcome, that is no impediment. Accordingly, for some time, both the son and the grandson have been in the matrimonial market. The Maharaja naturally longs to complete the line of Indian happiness by seeing his grandchild married before him. A suitable bride has been selected and the necessary arrangements being quietly made. Meanwhile, by way of training and preparation for a not very fruitful family which has not had much practice in the line, the young father, the Maharaj Kumar, with his wife, the mother of the boy who is his rival in the matrimonial mart, living, has married a second time—not her, but another girl,—a different one, too, by the way, from the intended bride of his son. Our blessed customs and ways are so remote from the experiences and associations of other countries and peoples that we think it safe in the interest of our European readers to be thus precise.

The great marriage is not quite so close, we take it, seeing that our friend Raja Siva Prasad is still writing to the *Pioneer* from Ghazee-pore.

apparently engaged in drawing what much is possible out of the land before the Russians should come and disposses all *Bania* landlords

MR. HOWELL has arrived at Hyderabad and has taken over charge from Mr. Cordery. It is to be hoped the new Resident will be able to suppress the intriguers that prey upon the Nizam.

LORD DUFFERIN leaves Calcutta on Thursday, the 29th March, and arrives at Simla on or about the 9th May, taking in Rewah, Lucknow, Murree, Srinuggur, Umballa and Pinjore in the way.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returned to the capital yesterday, after his tour in the Hazareebagh District.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

STUART BAYLEY having been prevailed upon by the irrepressible Raja of the town to receive it back to caste, the reign of Baboo Kissen Mookerjee, hitherto, by grace of the god Beames, standing official Chairman of the municipality, has ended in Uttarpara. In exercise of the newly conferred privilege of electing their own Chairman, the new Board have elected Baboo Siv Narayan Mookerjee. As the Jeykissen-Peary Mohan "Caucus" triumphed at the recent general election, and the Board is now composed almost entirely of one party, there is a complete devolution of power. We are rather alarmed at the prospect. For the credit of the country, we hope the victors will use their success with moderation. We rely upon the correcting influence of Babu Jeykissen, the patriarch of the camp.

PERTAB SINGH, the Sikh Sirdar, who, having been detected in political intrigue in the name of Maharaja Dhuleep Singh, had been thrown into confinement, has escaped from the District Jail of Lahore. This does not speak well for the loyalty or efficiency of Jail administration in the Frontier Provinces. Or, did the authorities connive at the escape for want of sufficient evidence justifying the gentleman's detention, as the Government of Lord Mayo would have done well to let the poor hide-man of Colootollah go out of Dr. Fawcus's castle on the *Maidan*? If Pertab be an enemy and a determined character, he will yet be heard of.

A PLANTER of Java is credited with the discovery of a process of manufacturing indigo which, without deterioration of quality, increases the yield from 25 to 35 per cent. Java planters have an initial advantage over the employers of free labour in India. The Culture System which charmed Mr. J. W. Money, of the Calcutta bar and of the Indian family of that ilk, into the production of his two vols. on the problem *How to manage a Colony*, is a vicious institution incompatible with the freedom and improvement of the children of the soil. It is demoralising to the Whites too. In the long run, it is somehow fatal to the prosperity of the governing race. Such selfishness has reduced the once extensive colonial empire of Holland to insignificance. The immediate advantage of the system to the European planters is obvious. If to that advantage they have added the benefit of a new and economical process, they will be able to distance all competitors in the markets of the world. That is a dark prospect for Indian manufacture. We hope our Planters will take heed bet. TH. ompt inquiries ought to be made into the discovery. There does not seem to be any mystery about it, as we find of planters who have given the new method a trial. But if necessary a man should be sent over to learn the process quietly, and all the ways of production in Java.

ONE G. Henrickson of Australia has suggested to the Victoria Central Board of Health a cure for snake bite. Many years ago, Liebig had remarked that the gall bladder of swine contains an acid distinct from that of any other animal. The Australian has recently observed that pigs are proof against snake bite, and he is disposed to attribute the immunity to their gall, and suggests that experiments be made on other animals to prove or disprove its efficacy. Snakes are not proof against themselves. It were strange to find pigs alone safe from the universal enemy of animal life, Liebig's acid notwithstanding.

The matter is no doubt worth inquiry. But care should be taken to ascertain the toxic virulence of the snakes. The Victorians might with advantage import a cargo of cobras. We can let them have the article cheap. There need be little fear of the reptiles degenerating in the "pilgrim fathers." Certainly inattention to these precautions has been the source of much error and repeated mistakes, entailing great sacrifices. About fifteen years ago great credit was claimed by, and given to, Australia for discovering a specific against snake-poison. We ourself took great interest in the discovery and imported from Sydney 15 copies of Professor Halford's pamphlets, hoping that at last God had vouchsafed the cure for the attack of the insidious reptile, which bites thousands of the poor of our country to a torturing death. Alas! for the poor, it proved an Australian "sell." There was nothing particularly new in Professor Halford's treatment by ammonia, unless it be that he recommends hypodermic injection. But injection or no injection, nothing avails against bite in earnest of the genuine worm of death—which we always thought a very appropriate character for the Father of Evil to assume. Not that Professor Halford's experiments are apocryphal, but there must have been a screw loose somewhere. We once thought the ever-deceiving snake played the Professor false. They shammed and shied and withheld their hypodermic injection and so on. But now it appears that the Halford cure has been exploded in Australia itself.

Oh! glorious is the Festival of Spring that pride subdues,
Decking the common things of life with rich, unwonted hues.

Right glorious is the Holi o' Hind! that likes not hollow mould
Of hearts from eager sympathies fenced round with cautious gold.
The poet and the painter then walk forth with step unbound,
And gaze abroad with glistening eye, that never seeks the ground,
Like the fiction bravely coin'd of the poet devotee,
Nature, that shackled ever was, triumphantly seems free.

But it is past—strange, innocent *Millenium* of a week;
Next morn their usual pasture dull the sober'd herd will seek.

The Indian Carnival has this year come to a mournful ending, at one place at least in Bengal. The scene was in the backwoods, beyond the purview of the Press—out of reach of reporters—so the world moves on in its accustomed groove of joy and sorrow, business and recreation, in absolute unconcern because in blessed unconsciousness, as though nothing had been the matter anywhere. Else there would have been a twenty-four hours' sensation and some days' conversation, and perhaps some pious if not very rational impeachment of the Hindu religion and some political reflections on, or rather against, the Hindu character.

In the heart of the wild country skirting Lower Bengal on the West, lies the Pachete hills of Maunbhoom. These hills are the seat of a petty principality of some pretensions in the past though now fallen and even obscure. Though now a mere Zemindari, and not the best managed either, Pachete, like Vishunpur and other neighbouring chiefships, was not without political importance in the days of the Mogul and the Pathan. Without prestige, shorn of power and privilege, the quasi Rajput Raja lives in solitary grandeur in the midst of the wilderness, feeding his pride on the traditions of the past. Of course, he sticks to the ways of the old world and maintains all the fasts and festivities of his forefathers. He patronises musicians and dancing women, athletes and fakirs. Shawl-dealers and jewellers and perfumers visit him. For the Indian ballet, he has a special weakness. During his confinement in 1857, at Burdwan, on suspicion of treason and war against Queen Victoria, though in reality in retaliation for unparliamentary language towards officials and tweaking their nose (metaphorically)—he had had professional girls brought up from Calcutta to relieve his loneliness. Returned home and to freedom, he caused the old Pachete hills to ring with revelry and joy—fit token of deliverance.

At the principal festivals and on special occasions, musicians and dancing girls from various parts repair to Kashipore. For the last Holi, three or four girls had been ordered up from Patna and a similar batch from Calcutta. The Calcutta consignment was a miscellaneous lot, consisting of a Jewess, a Mussulmani from Muchooa Bazar named Mukhan, and a brace of *khemtis* from Sonagachi. These different artistes performed before the light-hearted if hoary-headed

proving upon the Decalogue, enjoins—*Thou shalt not kill women*. It would scarcely occur to any one to preach such a precept in especial without occasion. What a horrible society it must be where such a law is required! The Irish must have felt the degradation implied in such legislation and they put as much of a good face upon the matter as possible. The traditional origin of the Law of Adamnan is thus given in the "Leabhar Breac" as follows:—

"Adamnan happened to be travelling one day through the plain of Bregia [a district roughly corresponding to Meath] with his mother on his back, when they saw two armies engaged in mutual conflict. It happened then that Ronait, the mother of Adamnan, observed a woman, with an iron reaping-hook in her hand, dragging another woman out of the opposite battalion with the hook fastened in one of her breasts. *For men and women went equally to battle at that time*. After this, Ronait sat down and said,—*'Thou shalt not take me from this spot until thou exemptest women for ever from being in this condition, and from excursions and hostings.'* Adamnan then promised that thing. There happened afterwards a convention in Ireland, and Adamnan, with the principal part of the clergy of Ireland, went to the assembly, and he exempted the women at it."

That scarcely improves the matter. A single case would hardly cause a law. Indeed, it is confessed that the women went to war like and with the men. That is a degradation to which savages of any respectability do not descend. Tacitus tells us that the ancient German women accompanied their male relations on their military expeditions and marches, but not to fight. They were an important factor in the wars of the tribe, but not as combatants. Their presence in camp encouraged the men, and the difficulty of retreating with their families and the prospect of their womankind falling a prey to the ill usage and rapine of the victor in the event of the day's fortunes going against them, impelled them to desperate courage and deeds of impossible prowess. That was all. They were too chivalrous to let the softer sex share with them the actual brunt of warfare. Even those barbarians who impose on the sex the rougher duties of ordinary life, spare women the obligation of bearing arms. Not so the Irish. Alone among races, they put the gentle sex to this ungentle use.

THE *Indian Mirror* threatens to report the papers of a different persuasion—when matter suitable and sufficient accumulate on its hands. Grose is carefully studying the enemy and taking notes. Would that our contemporary could be induced to take half the pains for love to form its own judgments!

Says the *Indian Mirror*:—"We are preserving with care all the cuttings of the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman*." Our contemporary forgets that that is a game open to the opposite side too. But probably it relies upon some historical (we mean natural-) advantages. We do not remember such an exposure as that of our contemporary by the *Tribune*. The Lahore paper did not expend a word and yet it succeeded in giving a perfect picture of the mind of the Calcutta editor—unto his very motto—*veluti in speculum*. The *Tribune* simply reproduced some extracts from the *Mirror* in chronological order, giving the Calcutta editor's deliverances from day to day on Nepal affairs, each pronouncement differing from the preceding utterance, though all pitched in the same oracular key. So much for the *Mirror's* consistency or judgment!

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1888.

THE MUNICIPAL REVOLUTION.

Municipal Bill as recommended by the Select Committee, is a programme for Municipal Revolution. The annexation of the Suburbs naturally brings with it new responsibilities, but there is no end to the new obligations, new imposts and new offences, created under the Bill. The changes contemplated are sweeping. A scholar himself, Sir Henry Harrison has evidently fed his soul on the Augustan ambition. He has at last found his opportunity, and he naturally makes the most of it. If he cannot, by his fiat, convert the City of the Ditch into one of stone, he may, with the help of an accommodating legislature, hope to leave it a spruce English town of brick and stucco. At any rate, he will do his best to turn the

city of *bustees* into a city of sewers, drains, privies, urinals, and "compounds."

The difficulty of municipal reformers has always been how to cleanse the Augean stable of our Black Town. Granted the necessary powers, Sir Henry is sanguine of success. He will make a determined effort to purify the city. We thoroughly sympathise with the object, but we confess we are not quite so hopeful, and feel almost alarmed at the patent steam broom that is being forged at the legislative workshop. The grandeur of the programme is likely to cause panic—in a self-governing country it would have ensured the rejection of the Bill. It is a stiff Malthusian dose for an old Eastern community. Mr. Malabari has found unexpected allies in Sir H. Harrison and his Health Officer Dr. Simpson. Through a reform in domestic architecture and economy, they promise to themselves that solution of the infant marriage question which reformers have so long been striving after. But, in improving the city of its close, ill-ventilated, crowded habitations, a great many honest and dishonest citizens will be improved off its face. There is no mincing of matters in the proposal. It is stern as Nature herself.

The new measures may all be good and necessary, but a vigorous working of the Act will be severely felt for generations and may cause an outcry which Government may be compelled to listen to. If the improvements can be effected at moderate cost, no reasonable man will object. But European sanitation is an expensive luxury, the cost being out of all proportion to the capacity of a poor, unenterprising, custom-ridden population.

The new measures are so many and so extensive, that the residents ought to be given sufficient time to make themselves acquainted with them. The Hon'ble Kallynath Mitter's motion for six weeks' time was perfectly reasonable, and if the law is not to come into operation before April next year, the Council with good grace might have complied with the request. At any rate, if the Bill is to be hurried through the Council this session, the Act should be freely circulated in the vernaculars among the residents to prepare them for the improvements in store for them.

With these preliminary remarks, we proceed to lay before our readers the important provisions of the Bill.

The Act comes into operation on the 1st April 1889, but elections may be held after the Act has been assented to by the Governor-General. This provision appears in the Mofussil Act, but we entertain grave doubts of its legality. A law cannot be worked in part while it is inoperative as a whole. The Governments of India, here and even at Home, are painfully deficient in law, and therefore it was that we hailed the recent appointment of Sir Charles Turner as contributing a needed infusion to the *personnel* of the Council of the Secretary of State. It is ignorance as often as wilfulness that leads Indian officials to break the law. But what hope of the thorough Reign of Law in a country in which the legislature itself has no loyalty and reverence for it, in which the makers of law lend themselves to tricks calculated to destroy its prestige? We trust the Advocate General will show a proper jealousy of such degradation of legislation, and we commend the whole subject to the notice of the Law Member.

We pass over the constitution portion, as it has already been passed by the Council—an unusual course even in the history of Indian Legislatures. The term "Municipal purpose" has been liberally defined, and

many openings for expenditure sanctioned hitherto not allowed. While the Divisional Commissioners come down upon mofussil municipalities for educational grants, and taxed them for expending the municipal fund for providing caskets for the Address to the Queen on her Jubilee, the Calcutta Corporation will be free to expend its revenues and perhaps to borrow money, for primary and technical education and for public entertainments. The sanitary rage for Calcutta is not exhausted by the extension of its municipal area, but the municipal fund is expected to provide for sanitary reforms by the neighbouring municipalities. We were at one time led to suppose that the drainage system was not to be introduced into the Suburban portion of the town, and were glad that at least an area of the new town would be spared the nuisance. But the Bill we now find makes it imperative to extend and complete the typhoid-generating works throughout the town. Instead of employing their time in devising a remedy against the existing evil, the Select Legislators coolly recommend the means of its spread with borrowed capital. Dr. Sircar is not on the Select Committee, and we doubt not he will raise the whole question in Council. A strong stand should be made against the extension, and Government asked to appoint a Committee of experts on the merits and demerits of the system.

The Bill retains the power of the Local Government to supersede the Commissioners for default and neglect of the duties prescribed, but makes the provision less indefinite and allows an appeal to the Governor-General in Council against the order of the Lieutenant-Governor. The appointment of Chairman shall continue in the Local Government, but he, as all officers of Rs. 500 a month and upwards, shall be removed from office on the vote of 2-3rds of the Commissioners at a special meeting assembled. The Chairman is no longer to be the Commissioner of Police and his lowest pay is fixed at Rs. 2,500. For appointments of Rs. 200 and upwards, the nomination whereof rests with the Chairman, he may be required to select 3 candidates, one of whom shall be appointed by the Commissioners. The Vice-Chairman is declared eligible, if elected or appointed, as a member of the Port Commission and the local Legislative Council. Any servant of the Corporation below the Vice-Chairman, may be suspended or fined, subject to confirmation by the final removing authority. Following the Bombay Acts, the Commissioners, their officers and servants and all are declared public servants as defined in Sec. 21 of the Penal Code. Instead of the Town Council of 30, there will a General Committee of 18—twelve being elected by the 50 elected Commissioners, one nominated by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, one by the Calcutta Trades Association, one by the Port Commissioners, and three by the 15 nominated Commissioners.

The Bill recognizes the propriety of exempting carriages from taxation when not used, but horses and animals, whether worked or not, must continue to bear the full tax. The neighbouring municipalities, whenever found entitled, are to be given a share of the cart registration fees. The Municipality is empowered to levy a tax of 4 annas for every ten gallons of petroleum brought into Calcutta for consumption therein. The Police rate is withdrawn, Government bearing the entire cost of the Police, but the House rate is increased to 13 per cent. under the name of the General rate. The water rate is unaltered, that is,

remains at 6 per cent, but "houses and lands, no part of which is within 150 yards of the nearest stand-pipe or other supply of filtered water..., shall pay 3 per cent less than houses otherwise situated." The law has always drawn a distinction between houses on streets piped and unpiped for filtered water, but the Commissioners never observed it in the application of the Act. Will the new law improve their sense of right in this respect? The lighting rate will not exceed 2 per cent. But the night soil fee is converted into a rate of 2 per cent, without exemption for service not done. And all these rates are to be recovered in advance, half from the owner and half from the occupier. This was inevitable after lapse of years. The Bill yet preserves the integrity of the special rates, the General Fund, being charged for any deficiency of any particular fund, but the General Fund is not to benefit by any surplus of the special funds. After so many innovations making for increased income—after so many proofs of zeal and boldness, Sir Henry Harrison unaccountably stops short of the logical goal of his ideas—his ideal. He does not propose a consolidated rate of all kinds. That would be the legitimate conclusion of his policy, and it would really put money in his purse. As it is, he could not divert funds from their fixed uses, and the unexpended balances must simply accumulate like Thellusson's legacy. Practice, however, overrides law, and the Commissioners have drawn cheques on the security of these separate funds for general purposes, and it may be repeated, though Sir Henry does not take the power. A fresh and an oppressive source of income is the system of assessment introduced, the per centage on the cost of buildings, or their selling value, which is calculated to double and treble the present assessments, and to raise the revenue accordingly. This is an innovation which is not to be submitted to in silence, either by the Council or the general body of ratepayers.

We stop here to-day.

HYDROPHOBIA EN MASSE.

THE English papers report what they call a shocking case of hydrophobia just occurred near Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim, in Ireland. The modesty of the grammar scarcely does justice to the proportions or painful interest of the subject. It is a caseful of cases rather than a single case. "Over thirty people," we are told, "ate of a pig which had been bitten by a rabid dog, and about a week afterwards a whole family, named Stewart, were seized with hydrophobia." Here is indeed a *multum in parvo* of horrors! The account goes on—"One Philip McGovern was immediately called in to apply his cure for hydrophobia. He completed the treatment, and all patients are expected to recover. The other persons who ate the meat and had not exhibited bad symptoms were also under treatment." Then putting an extraordinarily cheerful face on a frightful matter. It is covering death's heads with paste to look like life and even painting a smile over them! If these Irish victims of poisoned pork lend themselves to the illusion, they must either be grossly ignorant or possess a heavenly temperament. For our part, we can not contemplate their situation without anxiety or alarm. What are McGovern's claims to so much confidence? He may be only a local Sangrado with faith in himself and commanding the faith of his patients, but mere faith will scarcely, in these sceptical days, cure an organic or constitu-

tional ailment, any more than it will remove mountains. His system seems simple. He forthwith completed his treatment and pronounced the patients out of danger. That, we take it, is all the ground of expectation of recovery. The simplicity of these Irish is equal to that of their Philip's therapeutic method. If it is not a secret, we ought to know what this treatment is. And all the thirty ought to be sent for treatment to Pasteur and other experts. It would not be amiss if some good Samaritan could send the Chandernagore specific for their benefit. The lives of thirty men are in imminent peril. A whole family of unoffending Christians is threatened with summary extinction in cold blood, in a time of peace. The public ought to interfere. The victims should certainly be watched. If they develop any symptoms of violence, it may be necessary to isolate them. Some patients show an irresistible impulse to bite others, and such bites may communicate the virus. There is a funny story in one of Charles Lever's novels of a 'cute Irishman clearing a whole railway car of passengers for his comfort by a sudden announcement that he had the rabies!

It is too soon to conclude the recovery of these thirty Irish. This canine poison is at once deep and insidious, and works in the system for a great length of time—for months and even years. It is also so easily communicable. One mad dog or jackal may affect many households, and has actually been known to decimate whole villages. And as yet no satisfactory remedy is known. This points to the duty of the State in the connection. The subject is one peculiarly within the province of Governments to inquire into. We are not alarmists. So far from sharing the horror of the dog of so many of our countrymen, we have great admiration and respect for this companion and friend of man. In our anxiety for our own, we should not forget the rights of the lower animals. We preach no crusade against any that are capable of the slightest civilization.

Public Paper.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR AT PURULIA. THE MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

We, the Members of the Municipal Corporation of Purulia, the head-quarters of this District, on behalf of ourselves and our fellow-citizens, beg most respectfully to approach you with this our address of welcome, and to express our gratification in receiving Your Honor for the first time in the District of Manbhum.

The town of Purulia owes its origin to the existence of the British Government. The interior of this District is, indeed, studded with the ruined monuments of an ancient faith, and the traces of a former civilization. But that faith is now extinct, and that civilization has long since passed away. A hundred years ago the spot on which Your Honor is now standing was covered with jungle, and abandoned to the herdsman and the hunter. The town itself can trace its history back only to the year 1837; and in its steady development, in the swelling volume of its commerce and the richness of its political life, it may be said to mark the era of progress and enlightenment which opened with the accession of Her Majesty the Queen.

Difficulties of communication in these Districts have, hitherto, been a great hindrance to the progress of the country. It is only by the opening of the line that we can hope to bring them outside the ordinary tours of Your Honor's predecessors. The only previous instance of this District and Town having been similarly honored, is the visit of Sir Richard Temple in 1876. It is therefore with peculiar satisfaction that we have witnessed the resumption of work on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. This great work cannot fail to lend a powerful stimulus to the development of this District in every respect, to enhance the value of land, to attract the capital necessary for the exploitation of its mineral wealth, and to introduce its economic and industrial products to the markets of India and Europe.

We would express our hope that, when the opening of the line shall have brought Manbhum into unbroken railway communication with the labour districts of Assam, Your Honor may be pleased to

reconsider the law that regulates the recruitment of coolies. The evils that attend the existing system are daily brought home to us; and, in our humble judgment, it will be possible to mitigate them by an amendment of the law.

Finally, we venture to approach Your Honor with a prayer that some assistance may be afforded to us in our efforts to improve the supply of drinking water in the town of Purulia. The Saheb-bandh, which was constructed through the exertions of Col. Tickell, and which for 35 years has supplied the townspeople with water, has of late years somewhat silted up and is in danger of deteriorating. It is our wish to re-excavate a part of the bandh, and to clear out and deepen that section which is most resorted to: but unfortunately such a work is quite beyond our means. We do not venture to ask for a grant of money from Provincial Funds: but we bring to Your Honor's notice that after the Famine of 1866, a sum of money was set aside for the support of the orphan children of those who died at the time, and that sum of Rs. 6,000 is still at credit of this Fund, and is no longer required for its original purpose. We venture to hope that Your Honor will regard the improvement of Water-supply of the town as a proper object to which the surplus may be applied, and be pleased to place it at our disposal for expenditure on this account.

NOMENOLOGY OF THE A. B. PATRIKA.

A word about the philological self-examination of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. Amrita is nectar; and it is aconite, says the Patrika himself. It is, of course, left to each man to find out for himself as to which of these meanings fits the Patrika most; and there are many good people, I believe, who think that the Amrita of which "the Patrika is a bazar" is not nectar but the poison, aconite; for the symptoms of your brother curiously coincide with those of this drug. Proofs: *Mental*—"Great nervous excitability." *Head*—"Congestion with great heat; sensation of emptiness." *Eyes*—"Aversion to light, &c., &c." P.

The Punjab.

SUMMARY OF THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

(Concluded from p. 117.)

Miscellaneous.---46. That inasmuch as the posts of chief administrative officers of districts and Judges involve very responsible duties, the principle of selection should be more completely adopted in regard to those appointments; and that when in the order of seniority officers become eligible for appointment to the posts of Collector or Judge, there should be no hesitation in passing over those persons who have not given distinct evidence that they are fit for such office. 47. That, as a general rule, officers of the Imperial and Provincial Services, if declared ineligible for promotion, should, after a certain period of service, be liable to be compulsorily retired on reduced pensions calculated with reference to their period of effective service. 48. That a Board of Examiners should be appointed in each Presidency and Province who should perform duties similar to those entrusted to Her Majesty's Civil Service Commissioners in England, and that, whenever possible, non-official Europeans and Natives should be represented on such Boards.

Special Departments: General.---49. That when the Commission has made no specific recommendation respecting recruitment and conditions of service in any Department in which changes are suggested, it advises the adoption, as far as may be practicable, of the same rules as to preliminary qualification, recruitment, probation and general conditions of service as it has recommended for the Provincial Service, and that the recommendations of the Commission in regard to the several Departments are subject to due consideration for the rights of existing incumbents of all classes of appointments which may be affected by its proposals.

Accounts Department.---50. That the office of Comptroller and Auditor-General should be included in the Schedule attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54, and that the offices of Accountant-General, Civil Auditor, and Sub-Treasurer should be removed from the Schedule. 51. That indigenous agency should be more largely introduced into the Enrolled List, and that the sources of recruitment for that list should be extended, appointments being made---(a) of outsiders by open competitive examination; (b) to a limited extent, as at present, for the Covenanted Civil Service; (c) by the promotion of Chief Superintendents who have proved that they possess capacity for the superior branch; (d) by the exceptional appointment of officers who have shown marked ability in the charge of Treasuries or in other Departments of the Provincial Service. 52. That the Government of India should continue to reserve to itself a discretion of appointing to the Enrolled List any person whom it may deem it conducive to the interests of the public service so to appoint.

Archaeological Survey Department.---53. That facilities should be given to a limited number of graduates of the Universities, sufficiently prepared by previous study, to undergo a course of training in Epigraphy.

Customs Department.—54. That the Commissionership of Customs, Salt and Opium in the Presidency of Bombay should continue to be included in the Schedule attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54. 55. That of the three Collectorships of Customs at Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta and the Assistant Collectorship at Bombay, only the two most responsible appointments, namely, those at Bombay and Calcutta, should ordinarily be held by members of the Imperial Service, and that it is unnecessary to include the appointments of Collector of Customs at Madras and Assistant Collector at Bombay in the *cadre* of the Imperial Service for purposes of recruitment. 56. That the present system of recruitment by selection should be retained in respect to the other superior appointments in the Department, but that if these appointments are not filled by promotion from the subordinate ranks or by transfer from the Provincial Service, the persons appointed should only hold their offices provisionally until they have satisfied substantial probationary tests. 57. That there is no ground for exclusion of qualified candidates of any race from the Appraisers or Preventive branches of the Department.

Education Department.—58. That recruitment should be made in England only for (a) Principalships of Colleges; (b) Professorships in those branches of knowledge in which the European standard of advancement has not been attained in India; and (c) a smaller number of Inspectorships than at present. 59. That recruitment of Professors should be ordinarily of specialists, and, when practicable, for a term of years, with power of reappointment. 60. That the remuneration of officers recruited in England should be fixed with reference to the attainments required and the duties to be performed in each case. 61. That the present graded lists of the superior branch of the Department should be abolished, due regard being had to the interests of existing incumbents. 62. That all other educational appointments should be filled up locally by the present mode or modes of recruitment, on the principles recommended in this Report as to conditions of service for the general Provincial Service. 63. That there should be in each Presidency and in the larger Provinces at least one college with a staff of Professors capable of teaching up to the highest European standards, under a European Principal; and that the same object should, as far as practicable, be kept in view in smaller colleges. 64. That the inspection of schools and colleges should be carried on by an agency entirely separate from the teaching staff and recruited from a different source.

Forest Department.—65. That the staff of the Department should be divided into an Imperial Branch and Provincial Branches, and that, as in the Imperial Civil Service, the Imperial Branch of the Forest Service should be a *corps d'élite*, limited to the number of officers necessary to fill the superior controlling appointments and such a proportion of the Assistant Conservators posts as will ensure a complete training for the junior officers. 66. That the Imperial Branch should be recruited in England, and that the conditions of service as to leave and pension should be assimilated to those of the Imperial Branch of the Public Works Department. 67. That the present rule which disqualifies married men from presenting themselves at the examination in England should be modified, as it might operate to debar Native candidates from competing for appointments in England. 68. That the Government should keep in view the policy of training in India men qualified to take charge of the higher administrative appointments so as to avoid as far as possible the necessity for expanding the Imperial Branch of the service. 69. That the rules at present prescribed by the Forest Code for the admission of candidates in India should be retained as providing a system of recruitment for the Provincial Branches of the Department suitable to existing circumstances.

Geological Survey Department.—70. That so long as no adequate provision is made for the teaching of Geology and the allied sciences at Indian colleges, appointments to the higher grades of the Department should ordinarily be made by the Secretary of State without respect to the nationality of the candidates. 71. That Sub-Assistants should not be recruited in greater numbers than are required for the purposes of the Department, *i. e.*, to assist the more qualified Surveyors; but that Sub-Assistants should be promoted to the superior grades if they give proof of capacity for independent work. 72. That it is open to doubt whether the organisation of a Department for Geological Survey is expedient to any greater extent than is required to secure systematic investigation.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Counsel for the Delicate.—Those to whom seasons of changeable temperatures are protracted periods of trial should seek the earliest opportunity of removing all obstacles to good health. This cooling Ointment, perseveringly rubbed upon the skin, is the most reliable remedy for overcoming all diseases of the throat and chest. Quinsey, relaxed tonsils, sore throat, swollen glands, ordinary catarrh, and bronchitis, usually prevailing at this season, may be arrested as soon as discovered, and every symptom banished by Holloway's simple and effective treatment. This Ointment and Pills are highly commended for the facility with which they successfully conquer influenza; they allay in an incredibly short time the distressing fever and teasing cough.

73. That the graded system appears unsuitable for a service in which the work to be performed calls for the highest efficiency in an equal degree throughout the whole term of employment. 74. That the system of engaging specialists for a limited term of years is advantageous and should be continued.

Jail Department.—75. That when Superintendents of Jails, Central or District, are not medical officers, more opportunity might properly be given to Natives of India to show their fitness for these appointments from which they are at present practically excluded. 76. That the qualifying service for the important position of Superintendent of a Central Jail should be such as will ensure a thorough preliminary training, and that no person should be appointed to that office who has not served three years in the Jail Department, or in the superior grades of the Police Department, or in both combined.

Meteorological Survey Department.—77. That in the present state of scientific education in India, the Commission is unable to recommend any change in the system of recruitment for this Department.

Mint Department.—78. That the rule in the Notification of the Government of India, No. 3570, dated 19th September, 1884, which prescribes that Commissioned officers only shall ordinarily be appointed to gazetted offices in the Assay Department, should be cancelled. 79. That further enquiry should be made whether the scheme of training for temporary appointments involves unnecessary expense. 80. That, as a general rule, where a scientific education, as distinct from probationary departmental training, is required to qualify officers for service in any Department, the cost of such education should be borne by those who seek employment rather than by the State.

Opium Department.—81. That the experiment of appointing Natives by selection to a proportion of the vacancies in the Department should be discontinued, and that the future recruitment for this department should be subject to the general principles of equality of treatment of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects and of tested preliminary qualifications which have been proposed for the Provincial Service. 82. That the Imperial Service affords the fittest field of selection for filling the appointments of Opium Agents, and that these appointments should be retained in the Schedule of reserved posts attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54.

Pilot Service.—83. That no sufficient reasons exist to justify a recommendation that the State should establish a special school for the instruction of persons born and educated in India who entertain a desire to adopt a sea-faring life as a profession.

Postal Department.—84. That, in order to enable Natives to compete on equal terms with Europeans and Eurasians for appointments which require higher educational qualifications and greater physical energy than are necessary for efficient service in the lower posts, a certain number of appointments carrying salaries of from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 a month should be filled by competition, the successful candidates being admitted on probation and being trained in Head Offices after which they should be employed as Inspectors, and if found qualified, selected for the grades of Superintendent. 85. That of the seven highest appointments in the Department at present filled by Covenanted Civilians, not less than three should ordinarily be filled by promotion within the Department.

Police Department.—86. That although for many years to come the European element in the higher ranks of the Police should predominate, Natives of India ought not to be entirely excluded from those ranks as is now the case in some Provinces, but that endeavours should be made to introduce a reasonable proportion of Native officers, due regard being always had to the efficiency of the service. 87. That the present system of recruitment for the grade of Assistant District Superintendent in most Provinces is unsatisfactory, as not affording a sufficient guarantee for educational qualifications and habits of industry, and that admission to this grade should be by—(a) limited competition amongst candidates selected in England for such portion of the appointments in each Province as the Government of India may decide to be necessary; (b) limited competition amongst candidates selected in India, such candidates being carefully chosen on grounds of good physique, the knowledge of vernacular languages prescribed for the Provincial Service, and of educational qualifications of an English kind; (c) promotion who the grade of Inspectors for exceptional merit and ability should be active service. 88. That both of the competitive examinations referred to in the foregoing Recommendation should be conducted in accordance with rules approved by the Government of India. 89. That appointments to Inspectorships should, as a rule, be made from the lower grades of the force, and that in no case should outsiders be appointed to Inspectorships merely as a training ground for the higher offices. 90. That many of the abuses which now characterise the Police force are due to the inadequate remuneration of the lower grades; and that whatever improvement may be made in the conditions of service of the other ranks, full advantage will not result from it so long as the officer in charge of a Police Station, by whatever name he may be called, does not receive remuneration and prospects adequate to induce and enable him to withstand the temptations to which his situation exposes him.

Public Works Department.—91. That the Engineer Establishment of the Public Works Department should consist of an Imperial Branch and of Provincial Branches. 92. That the Imperial Branch should consist of such a number of Royal Engineers as may be required as a reserve for military purposes over and above the officers employed in the Military Works Branch and of Civil Engineers recruited in England. 93. That the strength of the Imperial Branch should not be greater than is necessary for purposes of control and direction and for the execution and repair of works calling for high Engineering skill, and that the recruitment from the Cooper's Hill Royal Engineering College, which appears at present excessive, should be regulated accordingly. 94. That the conditions of service in the Imperial Branch should be fixed with a view to secure the necessary qualifications in England, and should, as far as possible, be uniform for all officers employed in it. 95. That the Provincial Branches should be of a strength adequate for the construction and maintenance in the several Provinces of works not ordinarily calling for high Engineering skill. 96. That the recruitment for the Provincial Branches should be made by the direct appointment to the lowest grades of qualified Engineers from the Indian Engineering Colleges and in exceptional cases by promotion from the Upper Subordinate grades. 97. That there should be at least one college in India thoroughly well equipped for providing a high education for officers for the Provincial Branches, and that such college should be open to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects. 98. That the conditions of service as to pay, furlough, and pension should be fixed for the Provincial Branches without reference to those of the Imperial Branch. 99. That the number of professional Engineers and Military officers employed in the superior Accounts Branch is excessive and should be reduced. 100. That the mode of appointing outsiders to the Accounts Branch is unsatisfactory; that the recruitment should be to a larger extent from all classes of the community; and that it should be by open competitive examination, the subjects prescribed for the examination being so chosen as not to exclude any class of the community likely to furnish qualified candidates, and by promotion in exceptional cases from the Accountants' grades.

Registration Department.—101. That the appointment of Inspector General of Registration should not be included in the cadre of the Imperial Service for the purpose of recruitment. 102. That while no obstacle should be placed in the way of such Registration officers as may desire to compete for employment in other Departments, those officers should not be exempted from the operation of any rules prescribed to ensure the possession of the special qualifications required in any particular Department.

Salt Department.—103. That the Commissionership of the Northern India Salt Department and the Commissionerships of Salt in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies should be retained in the Schedule attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 54. 104. That when recruitment for Superintendentships in the Northern India Salt Department is resumed, the orders directing the reduction of the salaries attached to those appointments should be reconsidered. 105. That, sufficient precautions being taken to secure the requisite physical qualifications, the same principles should govern the recruitment for and promotion in this Department as have been recommended for the Provincial Service, and that rules should be framed in the case of the Northern

India Salt Department by the Government of India, and in the case of the Departments in Madras and Bombay by the Local Governments, subject to the approval of the Government of India, to give effect to this Recommendation.

Survey Department.—106. That Royal Engineers or other Military officers employed in the Senior Division, with such specialists as may be recruited in England, should be regarded as forming a distinct branch of the service, with pay, furlough and pension rules adjusted to the requirements of a service so recruited; and that the posts now held by the Junior Division should be amalgamated with some posts surrendered by the Senior Division so as to provide sufficiently attractive prospects for a service locally recruited, the pay, furlough, and pension rules applicable to which should be adjusted on the principles already indicated by the Commission in respect of other services recruited in India. 107. That admission to the Junior Division (or to the Local Service if the Recommendation of the Commission is adopted) should not be confined to special classes of Her Majesty's subjects in India, and that it should be regulated by competition among selected candidates, and exceptionally by promotion from the Subordinate Service. 108. That, in view of the fact that the Revenue Survey Departments in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies will be abolished in a few years, no further appointments of probationers should be made to the gazetted posts, and that any deficiency experienced in the strength of the existing agency should be supplied from the Provincial Services, such as the Land Revenue or Public Works Departments.

Telegraph Department.—109. That for the present the recruitment in England on the scale now sanctioned should be maintained, but that the gradual reduction of the staff recruited in England should be kept in view, and that a superior Local Telegraph Service should be recruited in India from classes to be established at one or more of the Indian Engineering Colleges. 110. That the pay of the service locally recruited should not be adjusted with reference to the pay of officers recruited in England, but that the pay and other conditions of the service locally recruited should be determined independently on the same principles as it is proposed to adopt for the Provincial Service.

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ARMY CLOTHING DEPARTMENT.

Milpore, 7th March 1888.

Sealed tenders are invited for the supply of
Stores and Embroidery as may be required
during the year 1888-89.

2.—Tenders will only be received on the
printed forms, which are obtainable at this
office, or may be seen at the office of this
Paper. Blanks in the printed forms must be
filled up correctly. Each tender must be
accompanied by a Currency Note for Rs. 100 as
earnest money.

3.—The lowest tender will not necessarily
be accepted, and tenders may be accepted in
whole or part.

4.—Any person whose tender may be ac-
cepted will be required to execute a bond and
to give approved security for the due fulfilment
of his contract, within one week from the date
of acceptance of his tender, in default of which,
his earnest money will be forfeited. The se-
curity will be calculated at 10 per cent on the
contract.

5.—Any further information required may be
obtained, and sealed patterns inspected at the
Clothing Agency.

6.—Tenders will be opened by undersigned
at noon on Wednesday the 21st March 1888
in the presence of such persons as may desire
to attend.

W. H. MACKESY, Col.,
Supt. and Agent for Army Clothing.

NOTICE.

Her Excellency the Countess of Dufferin
will receive on Monday afternoon March 19th
in the Gardens of Government House from
4-30 to 6-30 P. M.

All Ladies and Gentlemen having the entree
of Government House are invited to attend
and those having children to bring them.

WILLIAM BERESFORD, Lt. Colonel,
Military Secretary to the Viceroy.
Military Secretary's Office,
Calcutta, 16th March 1888.

The Mahanirvana Tantram with the com-
mentary of Harihorananda Bharati, the
spiritual preceptor of the late Raja Ram Mo-
hun Roy, accompanied by a translation and
copious explanatory notes by the venerable
Pundit Jagannomohun Tarkalankar; edited by
Babu Krishna Gopal Bhakta, M. A. S. B.,
Editor of the 2nd impression of the late Sir
Radha Kanto's Sabda Kalpadruma, the Ra-
mayana, etc., etc. Issuing in parts of six forms
demy 12 mo. each, from April last. To be
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whole work Rs. 5, if paid in advance. For
each part to subscribers annas 4, to non-sub-
scribers annas 6. Post free. Apply to the editor,
15, Gopee Kristo Pal's Lane, Calcutta.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed tenders for breaking Imported Stone Ballast in the Municipal Depots, during the official year 1888-89, will be received by the Vice-Chairman at 2 P. M., on the 24th instant, and will be opened by him there and then in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend.

2. The stone is to be broken so as to pass freely in all directions through a ring 2 inches in diameter and to be stacked at the Stone Depots for measurement. The rate for breaking 100 cubic feet of stone, including cost of stacking, is to be stated in each tender which must be accompanied by Rs. 1000 earnest money to be enclosed with the tender.

3. The party whose tender may be accepted must sign a deed of contract duly stamped and registered at his own expense within two weeks of the acceptance of his tender.

4. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

5. Any further information required can be had on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,
Superintendent of Stores.

9th March 1888.

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The Acron Bangle, (England)	... Rs. 60
The Thistle Bangle, (Scotland)	... „ 60
The Shamrock Bangle, (Ireland)	... „ 60
The Lotus Bangle, (India)	... „ 60
The Forget-me-not Bangle	... „ 63
The Indian Bamboo Bangle	... „ 32
The Victoria Bangle	... „ 100
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The Etruscan Ball Bangle	... „ 32
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The Oriental Onyx Bangle	... „ 90
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spare spring, glass box and guarantee. Guaranteed to stand any amount of rough usage. Will last a life time. Has no appearance of cheapness about them. Others sell at double our rates. A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The 7-8 watch I purchased from you two years back gives correct time as yet." Pretty Canadian Gold Guards, Locketts, Pencils and Rings set with chemical diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each, will not turn black. W. G. Smith, Salt Inspr., Sainkutta says:—"A German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and the ruby at Rs. 30." Full money refunded if any of the above are not approved. Mention this paper.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

.....this interesting book. We are justified in so terming it, not on account of any romantic adventures that the author has to relate, nor of any very new discoveries in geography or natural history. There is something particular as regards ethnology; and a great deal of human nature in the book, shown to the reader with a simplicity and candour which bear testimony to its truth. Called from the busy haunts of men in the city to dwell for a time in Independent Tipperah as a judicious adviser to its Chief, Doctor Mookerjee relates his adventures during the several journeys to and fro in that capacity, without revealing the secrets of the State, like a good diplomatist. He has adhered strictly to the advice which he offers to his brethren of the Native Press, and has written what he saw and knows, without revealing all, considering what he might properly say and what withhold..... The above seems to be a curious passage to be found in a book of travels, and appears to have no connection with the subject. But it arises from a casual reference to a slaughter

house, and a writer who "thundered weekly against the outrage of locating shambles in the immediate vicinity of a Hindoo temple"—where, in fact, no temple could be said to exist. Hence, the Doctor advises his fellow-scribes not to be Pharisees, righteous over-much, but to look and be sure of their facts. In the same spirit, he has written his book. He gives an account of his travels, which seem often to have been voyages, upon the wide-spreading rivers of Eastern Bengal which in the rains become almost inland seas. On these he philosophises on the nature of the country and the people, making careful observation of his facts; and though he sometimes fancies he knows better than his boatmen, and more than suspects that they are getting the better of him, he submits with a grace, that would have done credit to Socrates, and accepts the apparently inevitable in the interests of peace. The Doctor is a close observer of nature, animate and inanimate, with an eye to the picturesque as well as to the sublime and beautiful. And although there is a vein of cynicism running through many of his observations, it is tempered by such evidence of good nature, that even a stranger would receive him to be a laughter-loving rather than a stern philosopher. This is evident in his descriptions of his boatmen and others, while he denounces the lawlessness which has made the poor fishermen suspicious even of honest intentions, because they have so long been the helpless victims of marauders stronger than themselves. Their only defence is flight or deceit, and the latter is their justification as a mode of self-protection. We are shown not only the weakness of the people, but the shortcomings of the administration that leave these things possible..... The author is impartial in his censures..... There is much in the book to which space forbids us to refer. That it is not a prosy one may be gathered from the fact that, for its 300 pages, there are nearly as many index references. Many of the subjects are necessarily but lightly treated, but all sensibly and fairly. And Dr. Mookerjee is such a master of the English language that in the whole book we have scarcely found a phrase that might not have been written by an Englishman "to the manor born." There is nothing in it at which any one could reasonably take offence; and there is much from which both Englishmen and natives may learn greatly-needed lessons.—*The Indian Daily News*, Nov. 22, 1887.

"TRAVELS IN BENGAL. Such is the title of a most interesting little work published a short time ago. Its author is Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, the well-known Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*, the most original, cleverly-written and interesting journal in India. Babu Sambhu Chunder is one of the veteran Indian writers in English. He is the master of a most happy, racy pleasant style, which you can easily make out from amongst the writings of a hundred different men. In racy humorous writing Babu Sambhu Chunder has no rival among his Indian contemporaries. He won his first laurels, we believe, by his writings in his own periodical, the *Mookerjee's Magazine*, now long-defunct. In this magazine articles of great learning and excellence appeared, mostly from the pen of Babu Sambhu Chunder. He has written several other booklets. His *Causes of the Bengal Famine*, *Mr. Wilson, Lord Canning and the Bengal Tax*; the *Career of an Indian Prince*—*Highness the late Secundra Begum of Jharkhand* and the *Prince in India and to India*, open publications which attracted considerable attention. His latest production "Travels in Bengal" is a work of great merit. It is at once a most faithful and interesting picture of natural scenery and life in Bengal, although Mr. Mookerjee does not profess to write a picture of Bengal life and uses his pencil in its portraiture only in passing. The dedication is characteristic. [Extract.]

The "Travels" are travels in East Bengal, travels and voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. We do not believe many people in this side of India know that there is such an independent State as Tipperah. But nevertheless such a state exists. We will give here a summary of its history in the words of Mr. Mookerjee—He writes:—[Extract.] Mr. Mookerjee was Dewan of Independent Tipperah for some five years in all between

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1877 and 1881. The travels are an account of his voyages to and from Tipperah.

Those who have travelled in Bengal, particularly in its Eastern districts, which are the districts described in Mookerjee's book, will bear him out in his statement that Lower Bengal is not stale, flat and unprofitable, that, on the contrary, she is the beautifullest country in the world. She has no high mountains, but she has rivers apparently as vast as the sea, to make her scenery grand and majestic. She has a hundred rivers ever overflowing with water, thousands of transparent lakes, covered with the lily and a hundred beautiful water-flowers, thousands of seas of ever-waving paddy fields, thousands of clusters of bamboo and of great trees dressed in beautiful creepers adorning the river banks, to make her the loveliest country in the world. Even a Bengali needs to see and travel Bengal to adequately know her thousand witching charms. For a foreigner it is well nigh impossible to get even an approximate idea of what they are like from description, however true and faithful. Let us hear what our author has to say on the subject. We read:—[Extract.] A paddy sea is thus inimitably described:—[Extract.]

We will quote a passage of another character:—[Extract.]

It could cull many such gems. But it forbids it. We will, however, quote the passages of another kind. Our traveller, "though old in years, is evidently young in heart, for no one in the romantic age of youth could be more appreciative of female charms than our traveller. In every other page you find our author describing in terms of enthusiasm some rural girl or woman of beauty." [Extract.] In the next page we find our traveller's attention [Extract.]

There is the description, physical and moral, of a Colonel, which we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing, although the article has already exceeded the usual length. [Extract.]

We have now given extracts enough to show that the little book of travels is most delightful reading. It contains graphic descriptions of natural scenery, faithful portraiture of men and manners, and happy, good humoured observations on them. There is not an ill-natured or unkind word in the whole book—it overflows in every page with the milk of human kindness. Every observation testifies to the author being a keen observer of men and things, as an example of which we can mention the instructive and interesting chapter on the Native Christians of Portuguese extraction in Tipperah. Again, although the book does not pretend to deal with life in Bengal, the glimpses of that life we find in it are very considerable and pleasant. We will now conclude by recommending the book to all who may wish to spend a few hours amidst happy thoughts and pleasant pictures.—

S. K. C.

—The Tribune, Nov. 26, 1887.

If we have not before noticed Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee's *Travels in Bengal*, which was published some months ago, it is not because the little book is either dull or pointless. It contains, on the contrary, much interesting matter, though some of the incidents are over-weighted with detail in what is facetiously called a "little booklet." The author's view as a rule is, by the way, facetious: he is given even to punning; but he is also sentimental in the highest degree—"a naked Whiteman" but "susceptibilities"; a Hindu girl, bathing in a river, throws him into an ecstasy of delight "she had such large languishing" but he is nothing if not philosophical, reflections on this or that social and subject are not without their moral.

Sambhu C. Mookerjee was formerly minister to the "last of the Nawabs" Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa and afterwards Minister of the Maharaja of Tipperah. He is a man, therefore, of experience, and when he speaks his brethren should listen to him.... *Travels in Bengal* is a readable book, and it abounds in anecdotes which are often as instructive as amusing, and it is not spoiled by too many political allusions, though, of course, some few have crept in.—The Pioneer, Dec. 1887.

It may be well-known to all of our readers that Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee the

veteran editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* newspaper, has just published a book describing the four voyages that he made between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah when he had to go and to return from the latter place in the capacity of the minister to its prince. The literature yet produced in the English tongue by our own countrymen is very scanty and any sensible addition to it cannot well escape the attention of the public press. Much greater therefore should be the attention claimed on behalf of a book which comes from the pen of so well-known a writer in the field of Indian journalism as Babu Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee. That gentleman's career as a writer fills nearly the last thirty years, and there has hardly been any subject of public importance during that long period which has not occupied his attention. Master of an inimitable racy style, with a vast store of classical allusions ever ready at the call, and possessing an infinite fund of humour, our author often enlivens every thing that he touches, and his peculiar strength lies in description. We therefore welcome the appearance of this book more especially as the subject is one which to make it interesting, requires a lively colouring and a rich, picturesque and imaginative description. There exist several books of travels written by eminent Englishmen, and every one of these differs perhaps, in their conception and plan of execution. Of these none was more widely read in the course of the last few years than Carlyle's reminiscences of an Irish Journey in 1849. That book is made up of extracts from diaries and the worst features of it are the bitter and caustic personal remarks interspersed throughout the book. However that may suit the polished and fashionable taste of England, in our country it would have been singularly out of place and we are glad that Babu Sambhu Chunder has confined himself to the description of those natural sceneries he passed through, and the means of travel in the distant and little-known regions of East Bengal. That the rivers of Bengal, with their circuitous and entangling courses do enshrine in them a deep spirit of poetry and are of sincere interest to the real man of imagination, is proved by the fact that Sir William Hunter, than whom a more accomplished man of letters never passed the best years of his life in Bengal, should have chosen the subject for his very interesting address at Oxford, the other day. The gentle waves, the gentler ripples, the grassy banks, the ever-entwining courses, the pleasant air, the sceneries on both sides make the rivers of Bengal a genuine thing of interest to those whose eyes are perpetually fed by the artificial gloss and dross of civilization and few could have set perhaps the loveliness of our rivers in better light than our accomplished author. His eloquent sentences, marching in regular order one after another, and embodying in their selves, every minute detail, that can lend to a scene its finest artistic effect, seem to place the reader in the very midst of sceneries described, and the man of leisure who would acquaint himself with the state of things in East Bengal, can hardly resort to a better book. The journeys which are described in this volume are certainly uneventful and though they correspond to facts as they furnish no interesting situation, no critical moments, to the seeker of intellectual excitement and this will no doubt constitute a serious objection to the book on the part of sensational seeking readers. None has however any thing to quarrel with the choice of a subject that any author may choose to write upon and none of the outside public can afford any explanation as to why the author should have preferred one subject to another. We think however there are one or two indications of bad taste. Still we welcome the appearance of this book and trust that it is but the first of a long series of works in writing which our author should spend the matured experience and the literary facility of a well-spent life.—Young Bengal, Feb. 2, 1888.

We owe an apology to Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee for the apparent negligence with which we have treated that delightful work of his—*Travels in Bengal*. Mr. Mookerjee, as almost every one knows, is one of the best English scholars in India; he writes as gracefully as does the most scholarly Englishman, and ample proof of this is afforded in the pages

of his book before us, which is an interesting narrative of four journeys,—“two trips to Tipperah and two trips back”—accompanied by historical, geographical, cartographical and many other *ital* notes of the lands passed through. We confess we have been but through the first half of the work, and, as we have proposed to review it in two papers, we think our progress sufficient for present purposes. Our author has not, as far as we have read, met with those thrilling adventures we read of—oft with a certain amount of sneaking disbelief in the average hunter's narratives or traveller's tales; peaceful as the bosom of a still lake were his journeyings in Bengal Proper. He carried no formidable weapons with him, save and except a rusty old gun which, when called into requisition once, refused to go off; and yet withal, few more delightful works of travel in India have we read than the one now under our hands. The charms of true yet eloquent description, the force of observation, the gift of seeing sermons in stones, are all possessed in a great degree by Mr. Mookerjee; and we are pleasantly surprised at the lively and fascinating manner in which he can palm off on the reader the dreariest incident of his travels. Mr. Mookerjee will forgive us if we mention that we think him a very gallant old gentleman—with the accent on the second syllable. He has evinced in his little work a weakness for describing the Beauties of Bengal with all the poetic ardours of a Strephon. Did we not know enough of the erudite and good old “Babu” editor, we might be inclined to call this particular weakness of his, in Carlyle's language—“a Byronism of taste.” Here is how he speaks of a beautiful damsel he saw disporting in the running waters of the beautiful Megna, at Sonargoon:—[Extract.]

But the above excerpt is not the best thing in the book by far. Although every line in it which we have gone over is a line that we ourselves having written, would not wish to blot out, there are passages in it which surprise us and raise our hearts to a higher level by their eloquence, their purity and wealth of expression. Running through the pages of *Travels in Bengal* is a vein of quiet humour—that humour which makes us fall in love with writers and tempts us to fly to them for solace in trouble, for a return of serenity in moments of vexation. Mr. Mookerjee has, in his work, added one more to the innumerable anecdotes relative to the fidelity of man's best friend among brutes—the dog. The sentinel duties of a canine phenomenon—Tom by name—are related in glowing terms, but we shall not rob the author of one of his finest plums by transferring it into our columns. This review, as we have already stated, is but the introductory one. In our next, or a little later, we shall take up Mr. Mookerjee's book where we are leaving it off, and make our readers a little more familiar with one of the cleverest native gentlemen of the day and with his interesting book on travels in Baboodom. Mr. Mookerjee, like all his fellow mortals, is human, and he has let us know this in his present work. How, we propose to state only in our second review. Would he however pardon us if we surrender to the temptation of finishing this up with his pretty remarks about Mooning and the Moon. After “the contending gods of the elements” had “left off” one night when our traveler was on the bosom of the Megna, he watched Luna issue from behind the clouds in all her grandeur and radiance. That sight, so delightful to the mind with a leaning towards the aesthetic and poetic, gave vent to the following [Extract.]

Now, the above will prove a grand surprise to the European readers especially, who may perhaps be unkind enough to doubt that it was written by a “Babu” just as people have doubted that Shakespeare was really the author of *Shakespeare* and Tennyson the author of *Tennyson*. Mr. Mookerjee and we part here, but when work is done and we sit in our cosy arm-chair at home and watch, as is our wont, the blue smoke curl gracefully away from our pipe, we shall dream with waking eyes of the beautiful Megna and the damsels of Bengal, of the moon and the waters, and we know that we shall again take up the *Travels in Bengal* and satisfy our wish of getting to the end of such a pleasant little work.—The Malabar and Travancore Spectator, February 4, 1888.

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Womesh Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medical Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30th October, 1886."

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1888.

No. 316

APRIL IN THE BRIJ COUNTRY.

1

The west wind moaned among the trees,
The sad leaves shook and fell,
The distant murmur of the bees
Came fairly down the dell.

Love lay among his wasted flowers ;

Love sighed and sang "the day is long ;"

Time laughed and would not hear the song.

2

The dapple shadow of the leaves

Lay trembling on the grass ;

Upon the yellow stacked leaves

There watched nor lad nor lass.

Love strayed among his fallen bowers ;

Love moaned and sang "the day is long ;"

Time laughed and would not hear the song.

3

Lazily sped the long hot day,

The dust was in the wind

Beyond the burning breath of May

The sweets of March behind.

Love grew weary of the hours ;

Love pined and sang "the day is long ;"

Time laughed and would not hear the song.

4

The fierce sun shimmered on the land,

The birds their nests forsook ;

The hot wind quivered on the sand

That marged the dying brook.

Love languished vainly for his mate ;

Love sighed and sang "the day is long ;"

Time laughed and would not hear the song.

akin

expl

5

Her mate came with the brief spring tide,

fact, in spring tide she was gone,

ncy, late came where far and wide.

The sweets of March were strown.

But now the land lay desolate ;

Love moaned and sang "the day is long ;"

Time laughed and would not hear the song.

6

Fair Jāmuna ! thy limpid plain

Where laved the village maids

Whose garments once th' amorous swain

Of Brij purloined, lay in braids

Of glist'ing sand or feath'ry reeds.

Love sighed and sang—"the day is long ;"

Time laughed and would not hear the song.

7

The Lāla stalks lay sere and wan,

And woeful blew the breeze ;

And bloomless drooped the Nāfarman,

And cheerless stood the trees.

Love sickened with the day's long pains ;

Love sang—"the day is very long ;"

Time laughed and would not hear the song.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ERRATUM.—We owe an apology to the unholy ghost of our first paragraph of last week's "News and Comments," for want of familiarity with his family. Thus, we stumbled on the *Bismillah*—the patronymic. We are told that it is another brother that has resorted to the Grimm Law and that the initial has always been *P* not *B*. We readily make the correction, though it is no fault of ours if it raises a suggestion of *Pshaw* ! We admit it were cruel to rob a poor fellow of his name, good bad or indifferent, who has scarcely any others of his family possessions to fall back upon.

THE Queen has started for the continent.

THERE is being held at Rouen a typographical exhibition—in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the introduction of printing—from which may be said to date modern civilisation.

A COPY of the *Times* has made the round of the globe in sixty-nine days. "Its journey was made by the Suez Canal route to Yokohama, and thence to London via the Canadian line and Atlantic connections."

HERR Laßewig of Germany has manufactured paper to resist both fire and water. The recipe is thus given. Mix 25 parts of asbestos fibre with from 25 to 30 parts of aluminum sulphate, moisten the mixture with chloride of zinc and thoroughly wash in water, then treat it with a solution of one part of resin soap in 8 to 10 parts of a solution of pure aluminum sulphate, then manufacture into paper like ordinary pulp. Will this paper keep out the book-worms ?

AN Oporto telegram of the 21st brings the sad news that—

"A theatre here has been burned. The place was crowded with people at the time, and it is feared that a good many lives have been lost, and many persons injured."

A later report says that 80 persons have been found dead mostly in the galleries. Many jumped from the windows into the street.

ANOTHER fire is reported from Upper Burmah. We read in the *Englishman*—"Myingyan has been almost totally destroyed by fire. Over 2,500 houses were burnt, and enormous quantities of valuable stores lost."

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THEY have issued in Italy the autobiography of Garibaldi. It is to be republished in England by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co.

THE Madras Railway Company have sanctioned a retiring bonus of Rs. 25,000 to their Chief Auditor,—two years' pay, for a service of 30 years.

ACCORDING to a Cuttack telegram received by us during the week,

The 25th ordinary meeting of the Orissa Islam Association was held on the morning of the 18th at the premises of Munshi Sultan Mahamed, zemindar, and amongst other things it was unanimously resolved that an address of farewell be submitted to His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

THERE has been a change in the Cashmere Durbar. Dewan Luchman Das has been dismissed—with honor or disgrace we are not told how—Raja Amar Sing taking up his duties temporarily.

MR. R. D. MEHTA has been appointed by the local Government to succeed Mr. D. Cruickshank who has ceased to be a Port Commissioner. An unexceptional appointment. So much the worse for him! doubtless thinks the dog in the manger of Calcutta journalism. Look at the barking set up at poor K. M. Chatterjea, one of our most accomplished men, for his single month's elevation to the bench of the Small Cause Court!

MR. T. A. PEARSON officiates as Receiver of the High Court during the absence on leave of Mr. J. C. Macgregor.

THERE was a theft of Rs. 2,000 at the Bellevue Hotel. A dismissed bearer was suspected. He was traced by the Police with Rs. 1,700. The Magistrate has sentenced him to the full term of 2 years.

KIRBY & CO. have completed the new Victoria Dock at Bombay 245 days before time, and have won a bonus of Rs. 1,76,000.

THE Allahabad Standing Committee of arrangements for holding the next Congress at the capital of Upper India, have appointed a compact Executive Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Pandit Ajodhya Nath as President, Raja Ram Pal Singh, as Honorary Secretary, Sayyad Abdul Raoof, Barrister-at-Law, Munshi Madhava Parshad, Vakil, and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Editor *Hindustan*, as Joint-Secretaries, and Lala Ram Charan Das, Junior Vice-Chairman of the Municipal Board and Special Magistrate, as Treasurer.

THIS executive committee lately sent a deputation, consisting of the Hon'ble Pundit Ajodhyanath, Rajah Ram Pal Sing, Mr. Atkins, Mr. Crowley, Lala Ram Charan, Mr. Fairley, Mr. Mahmood Rauf, and Babu Charu Chander Mittra, to wait upon Mr. Commissioner Lawrence with a view to secure Khasru Bag for the next meeting of the National Congress. Acting in concert with the popular Lieutenant-Governor, the Commissioner has complied with the application. With the Khasru Bagh for the place of rendezvous of the great gathering of Delegates, the Congress starts with a great advantage for their next session. Fakirabad—as the capital of the N. W. P. is contemptuously called—abounds not in house-accommodation, and it were next to impracticable to shelter with decency and comfort the large number of visitors expected. But the acquisition of the Khasru Bagh will enable the Committee to meet their requirements. In the next Congress, the delegates will be located in one place and accommodated in tents. The country ought to be grateful to Sir Auckland Colvin for his liberal treatment of the movement.

THE Missionaries as preachers of the Gospel claimed exemption from the Income Tax, but the Government construe the Act differently, and have disallowed the claim.

SIR HORACE RUMBOLD is to be paid 3 lacs from the Hyderabad Treasury for an extinct claim. £5,000 to be remitted immediately and the balance by equal annual instalments. Hurrah for Sir Horace! There was a Commission on this business. The report should see the light.

SPEAKING of the last Fancy Fair at Bombay, a lady correspondent writes to a contemporary that "the Queen sent the Duchess of Connaught her own photographs signed in her own handwriting, and for each of these the natives gave fifty rupees."

THE following important publication is announced:—

"The Secretary of State for India has finally decided that the allowances for the equipment and voyage of a Governor-General of India, resident in Europe at the time of his appointment, are fixed at £3,500.

A newly appointed Governor-General proceeding to India from Europe to enter upon his office may be accompanied by three combatant military officers for his personal staff, the expenses of whose passage will be defrayed by Government according to the rules in force in the Military Department as to military officers proceeding on duty.

For an ex Governor-General returning to Europe, on resignation, a steamer belonging to the Indian Marine Service will (if consistent with the requirements of the public service) be gratuitously provided to convey him and his family suite to Suez; but the homeward voyage of the ship thus provided shall not be continued beyond Suez. The ex-Governor-General will bear the cost of entertainment and messing incurred while on board, in respect of himself and his party, according to the rules in force relating to the conveyance of passengers in Indian Marine troopships.

No grant from Indian revenues will be made to any ex-Governor-General for his homeward journey from Suez.

An ex Governor-General returning to Europe may be accompanied by two officers of his personal staff, for whom free passages to Europe will be allowed according to the rules in the Military Department made for free return passages to India, if they start on their return voyage within two months from the date of quitting India.

The allowances for equipment and voyage of the Governors of Madras and Bombay, the Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in India, of Madras and of Bombay resident in Europe at the time of appointment respectively are fixed as follows:—

The Governor of Madras	...	...	£1,000
The Governor of Bombay	...	...	" 1,000
The Comdr.-in-Chief of the Forces in India	...	...	" 500
The Commander-in-Chief, Madras	...	...	" 500
The Commander-in-Chief, Bombay	...	...	" 500

A Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in India proceeding from Europe to assume his command may be accompanied by three combatant military officers for his personal staff, and newly appointed Governors in Madras and Bombay, and Commanders-in-Chief of Madras and Bombay, similarly proceeding from Europe to take up their duties, may respectively be accompanied by two combatant military officers for their personal staff; the passages of these officers being provided at the expense of Government according to the rules in force in the Military Department as to military officers proceeding to India on duty: but with these exceptions, Government will make no arrangements for and will defray none of the expense connected with the passage or conveyance of any of the officers mentioned in the preceding paragraph or of their families to or from India.

The allowances for the equipment and voyage of Members of the Council of the Governor-General of India, and of Bishops of Calcutta, of Madras, and of Bombay, if resident in Europe at the time of appointment, respectively, are fixed as follows:—

Members of Council of Governor-General...	...	£300
The Bishop of Calcutta	...	" 300
The Bishop of Madras	...	" 300
The Bishop of Bombay	...	" 300

An officer of any of the Indian Services temporarily residing in Europe, or a military officer transferred from one superior command in India to another during temporary residence out of India shall not be deemed to be resident in Europe at the time of appointment within the meaning of the above rule."

THE Shah of Persia has deferred his third visit to Europe in order to be able to take in the International Exhibition at Paris which comes off next year.

MAHARAJA Sivaji Rao Holkar Bahadoor has by no means confined himself to astrology. He has lately given his attention to—say, conubiology, having just taken to himself a fair Maharajah's young lady of fourteen for a partner in life. We hope he will be a better in both worlds for his choice, and that his people will be the happier for his domestic peace and happiness.

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A petition is lying before us, of Haridas Bhaduri, late an Overseer, P. W. D., Bengal, Brahmin Byturni Division, addressed to the Viceroy in Council. Its disposal will probably devolve on the Secretary to the Government of India in the P. W. D. Recommended by the highest medical adviser of the Government of Bengal, viz., the Surgeon-General, for a transfer from the Irrigation to the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Department, Haridas failed to procure even a patient hearing of his application for transfer. His very life was in jeopardy. Yet the inexorable Secretariat order was out, commanding him, on pain of forfeiting his appointment, to join his Division in Orissa. After several communications between himself and the Sec-

retariat, which led to no favorable result, Haridas prepared to join his appointment in Orissa, thinking that further refusal on his part might be regarded as evidence only of contumacy, and hoping that if after joining his Division he pressed his application for transfer, the Government might be disposed to listen to it. About this time, however, private reasons interfered with his plans, the force of which may be easily estimated, if not by others, at least by Lord Dufferin, whose announcement in Council the other day regarding the termination of his Viceroyalty should not certainly be regarded as a joke.

It strikes us that the Public Service Commission, about which so much was made by a portion of our countrymen, was a mistake. Before seeking to open new appointments for the children of the soil, measures ought to have been adopted for protecting the appointments already held by them. The sturdy paper *Hope*, in one of its recent issues, gave the story of a native clerk, of seventeen years' service, belonging to the office of the Comptroller of Military Accounts, having been dismissed for visiting the editor of the *Indian Mirror*. Of course, a charge was concocted of "incompetence and indifferent character," whatever the last may mean, although poor Doyal Chand Banerjee (that is the clerk's name) had in seventeen years been fined only *once* in an office where fines are the order of the day, and although having originally entered on a small pay had latterly been drawing about double that amount.

In fact, the man almost deserves this retribution for his seventeen years of unbroken prudence and circumspection and his unparalleled success in avoiding temptations and eluding the worse devils of the Government Departments. For ourselves, we are inclined to regard him not exactly as the Greek who blackballed Aristides regarded him, but with a degree of horror mixed with contempt, if such an amalgam can be conceived. It is a wonder how such a perfection of an office Baboo—quite a distinct genus from the Baboo Political—could ever go to—the "other place"—the h—of native journalism. The Lords of the P. W. D. ought in mercy to preserve this poor fellow—at least as a curiosity of a man actually returned from the grim place whence no unfortunate ever escapes.

ONE Venkatasawmy Naidu is reported to have died at Bangalore at the age of 107. No other particulars are given except that at the siege of Bangalore, the deceased was residing there and was 18 years of age, and that he was an old servant of Colonel Clarke, Secretary to Sir Mark Cubbon and father of the present Commissioner of Coorg.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

MR. BUSHBY—Surveyor to the Port Commission—has disgorged the Rs. 1,000 paid him by Messrs. Macneill & Co. for extra attention paid to the repairs of the lost *Sir John Lawrence*, and has pocketed the censure of the Bengal Government. The Port Commissioners have paid back the sum to the agents of the vessel, as directed.

AN Honorary Magistrate in Saugor, Central Provinces, is in trouble. A petition went up to the Chief Commissioner accusing Rao Lachman Ramesh, asking bribes. The Magistrate was called upon to explain, but his explanation not satisfying, Mr. Mackenzie promptly suspended the Magistrate, at the same time advising him to prosecute the petitioners. In fact, who alleged that he had paid a bribe of Rs. 1,500, is, by being tried.

CHINA is a conservative country. The Celestials do not adopt any development of modern civilization for which they have to depend on outer-barbarians. The telegraph was not introduced until the Chinese themselves had mastered the science and learnt the art and could manufacture the lines on the spot. That also explains the late introduction of the railway. Their aversion from foreign goods, however, did not manifest itself in the case of kerosine. Its cheapness perhaps overcame all opposition, and it was adopted. They have now awakened to its danger. A joint memorial to the Throne has been presented by the Governor of Kwangtung, in which province Canton lies, and the Viceroy over him. They condemn the article for its dangerously inflammable character, citing many instances, amongst others, the burning of a steamer and destruction of life and property,

and pray that the importation of the oil be prohibited or a special tariff imposed. They might as well point out the evil effects of petroleum on human health. The proposed additional duty on the oil in Calcutta is all welcome.

A STABLE-KEEPER at Allahabad, H. Wilkinson, not having paid any income tax, was called upon to pay up the arrears. The stable-keeper claimed exemption saying his annual income did not exceed Rs. 500. The Collector summoned him and his books. Wilkinson was sworn before he was questioned by the Collector. The answers not agreeing with the entries in the books which shewed an income of over Rs. 500, Wilkinson has been called upon to answer a charge of perjury. A Barrister and a pleader have been engaged for the defence.

A prosecution of this kind is an unusual step—an extremity of severity which ought not to be lightly restored to—and we hope no vindictive feeling is at bottom in the present case. At any rate, we have grave doubts—from the nature of things—of this zealous Collector bringing his prosecution to a triumphant issue. We should not be surprised to find that this unfortunate stable-keeper's book-keeping was at fault, or that the Collector did not understand it. The Collectors are not strong in accounts. They leave these matters to their underlings, and these again are interested more in conciliating their chiefs than in doing justice. We know how accounts are examined in Bengal when appeals are made against assessments.

A PORTION of the native press has of late making such an exhibition of morals and manners that we shall for some time to come need all the respectability of our ranks to maintain the credit of the whole body. Meanwhile, those who might be ready to make political capital of the freaks of some of our members may legitimately be reminded of the conduct of those Anglo-Indians on the Indian Press who are found washing their dirty linen on the highway. Whatever the shortcomings of the native press, those connected with it are not at all rowdily disposed. Muscular journalism is still the monopoly of the ruling race. One of the last editors of the *Madras Athenaeum* was continually in hot water—if not also in a more ardent liquid—with his people and frequently in the Courts. At Bangalore, the mutual squabbles of journalists have been notorious. Just now, the Anglo-Indian press of Burma has drawn all eyes on it. The following from a recent *Maulmain Advertiser* looks like a picture of manners in the Border Territories of the United States:—

"We must ask our readers to excuse the shortcomings of this issue. Yesterday morning at 8-30 as we descended from our conveyance to enter the Press, we were met by a Mr. Henry Bayly of Her Majesty's Customs, who informed us that he was there on behalf of his brother, Mr. John Douglas Bayly, the Chief Clerk of the Judge's Court, Receiver, and Official Assignee, to deny us admittance, as his brother had taken possession. To our inquiries as to the reason no answer was returned. We refused to acknowledge Mr. Henry Bayly's right to bar our way in, and we entered the door of the Press, leaving Mr. Henry Bayly outside. However, he followed inside and tried to prevent our going upstairs, which we resented. Then his brother John Douglas Bayly entered on the premises with a posse of Court peons, among whom we recognized Abdul Gunny and Mootosawmy. We also remember a Burman whose name we do not know. All these men set on us. Mr. Henry Bayly began to assault. Mr. John Douglas Bayly after hitting us a blow began to dance about and order our expulsion, all the while vociferating—'We will see if you will write another article like Saturday's.' But the combined efforts of the Bayly brothers and the Court peons were unable to eject us. The Police then came on the scene, after putting two men forcibly in, as Mr. John Douglas Bayly, Chief Clerk of the Court, in familiar language said, possession, the Bayly brothers with the Court peons withdrew. Mr. Moyle, barrister-at-law, with his usual readiness to serve a client, came over in answer to an urgent appeal, and after our worthy Magistrate, Colonel Furlong, took his seat and had disposed of a case or two, our petitions, which will be found elsewhere, were presented to him. Summons for assault against the brothers Bayly will be issued, and the two men put in possession have been removed."

THE glorious uncertainty of English law—

That codeless mass of single precedents—

has lately been illustrated by a remarkable litigation. One of the peculiarities of that law is the principle of damage. It is a brilliant conception and a great advance on the wild justice of the old Jews with their "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth" and so on, which continued to govern the criminal code of Christian Britain down to our own times almost. Unhappily, the principle has not been very accurately defined, or why should there be so much difficulty in its application?

A tailor of Melbourne, named Coultas, was driving his wife home

in his buggy. In crossing a railway in their path, they were nearly run over by a railway train. This accident was caused by the carelessness of the gate-keeper in opening the gate. When his buggy was actually on the line Coultas discovered to his horror the train in motion before him. He is a cool-headed man—a gem of the European breed—and, instead of allowing his senses to be overpowered or crying to his gods, he strove his best under the dreadful situation and succeeded in getting just out of death's way by a hair's breadth. To keep altogether clear of harm's way, was not possible under the circumstances. In one moment the torture of a generation was crowded for him and his. His nerves must have been dreadfully shaken. Poor Mrs. Coultas's condition may be better imagined than described. She could not be the same woman that she was before the accident—for accident it was though there was not actual impact. Under advice, the Coultases sued the Railway and got damages from a jury of their fellow-citizens, the husband £342, and the wife £400. The Railway Company appealed against the award, but the highest Court in the Colony affirmed it. A private defendant might have been deterred from pursuing the matter further. The Company, having a long purse and no soul to feel either piety or remorse or the pang of disappointment, carried the appeal to England. There the Privy Council has upturned the whole business, decreeing the appeal with costs in both countries, from commencement of action. As the *London Daily News* observes with pathetic wit, the poor Coultases "may be nearly ruined as a penalty for being nearly killed." According to the Judicial Committee, although impact was not necessary to constitute damage, the injury sustained must be a more direct and necessary consequence of negligence than could be traced in the lady's fright. This ground is the most unkindest cut of all. These grave and reverend seigniors of the law actually snubbed the poor lady for having had her nerves shattered at such a trumpety situation. The harshness of the law is proverbial, but in these humane times such an example of cynicism is, we hope, rare in the highest Courts of the British Empire.

To us the case suggests another reflection.

They go to law, unto the whole hog, who can afford it. Nevertheless, such is the disadvantage of political subjection—the natives of India have to put up with the taunt of being a peculiar people, singular in their addiction to the luxury. And yet, for one out of innumerable examples, here is a simple, not to say trumpety, case of damage between men of the sublime Saxon race, which has been fought to the knife in Courts of both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, which, after occupying the Judges of the Antipodes, was carried all the way across seas and Continents over to Great Britain, and has there just been decided. Nor do the plaintiffs belong to the much-abused class of professional litigants. They are neither grasping landlords nor refractory tenants, any more than they are pettifoggers or champertists. They are absolute amateurs. For anything that we know to the contrary, or anything that appears on the record, they never stood an action at a County Court nor entered a Police Court. Between them, they constitute scarcely a unit of humanity; for he is a tailor and she his wife. And yet they ventilated their grievance all through their Colony and followed it to the distant mother-country with a pertinacity a Bengali might envy. We hope between this single tailor of Melbourne and his worthy spouse, the plaintiffs do not represent the Victorians, as the three tailors of Tooley Street claimed to represent the people of England.

LAST week we saw how Herodotus was in Christian times repeated and, we may add outHeroded, in Ireland with her Amazons. Still that was a matter of several centuries back. What shall be said of the enlightened Britons of yesterday, when one of their own race can make out, with the necessary documentary proofs, such a case against them as another correspondent of the *Spectator*, who gives his name, (and a respectable name it is,) makes out, as follows?

"During our struggle in America in 1763 with the Indian Border tribes who were laying waste our settlements with fire and sword, Sir Jeffrey Amherst, the Commander-in-Chief, hard pushed by an enemy whose strength he had not at first realised, writes in a postscript to Colonel Bouquet, who was commanding on the frontier, as follows:—

"Could it not be contrived to send the small-pox among these distressed tribes of Indians! We must on this occasion use every stratagem in our power to reduce them.—(Signed), J. A."

To this Bouquet replied, also in a postscript, on July 13th, 1763:—

"I will try to inoculate the— with some blankets that may fall in their hands, and take care not to get the disease myself. As it is a pity to expose good men against them, I wish we could make use of the Spanish method, to hunt them with English dogs, supported by rangers

and some light horse, who would, I think, effectually extirpate or remove that vermin."

In answer to this, Amherst wrote:—

"You will do well to try and inoculate the Indians by means of blankets, as well as to try every other method that can serve to extirpate this execrable race. I should be very glad if your scheme for hunting them down by dogs could take effect; but England is at too great a distance to think of that at present.—(Signed), J. A."

The originals of this correspondence are in the British Museum among the Bouquet Papers, No. 21,634; but copies of the letters, with remarks and a note thereupon, may be found at pp. 39 and 40, Vol. II. of 'The Conspiracy of Pontiac and the Indian War,' by Francis Parkman, ed. 1885."

And this was British war in the 18th century! And British historians affect to be horrified at the degradation to which Spain and Portugal stooped in their lust for conquest! Of course, there are no bounds to the contempt of all Europeans for the poor Indians of both East and West. We lately had an opportunity of contrasting the honor of the Mussulmans of Algeria with that of Christian France. The Hindu laws of war reaches the chivalry of ideal perfection, and they were no dead letter, being a part of religion itself.

It is stated that Mr. T. D. Sullivan devoted a considerable amount of his time during his recent confinement in Tullamore Gaol to writing verse. His manuscripts, consisting chiefly of parodies and squibs and other original pieces, were announced for publication on the 9thth of January, in a booklet, of some sixty pages, under the name of *Pnest's Poems*. The butt of Mr. Sullivan's ridicule and denunciation is, of course the unspeakable Chief Secretary, Mr. Balfour. The book is looked forward to with eager interest in Nationalist circles, but whatever concern the friends of the minister might have felt at its "advent," was incautiously dissipated by the specimens which the Irish Home Rule and English Gladstonian newspapers supplied with advance sheet laid before the public. Mr. Sullivan's Muse will not demolish the Ministry. There is nothing like taking the British Bull of a Chief Secretary by the horns, and the antics performed on them will scarcely be felt by their owner. Verse-making is an old resource of unfortunates under confinement. Mr. Sullivan was plentifully supplied with stationery. Pope has told us of one

who, locked from ink and paper, scrawls

With desperate charcoal round his darkened walls.

It is true the same poet has sung, and sung with pathetic truth,

Most men are cradled into poetry by wrong,

They learn in suffering what they teach in song.

Shakespeare himself would probably have been lost to the human race but for the *Zooloom* of a local Zemindar and the rigor of the game laws. As a poor lad, his misfortune in connection with Sir Thomas Lucy's deer lashed him into the production of the lampoon which must have first revealed to him his capacity for literature.

In this century, Byron is a fine example. It was the scornful insolence of "blundering Brougham" that first put him on his mettle, and wrung from him as it were a respectable satire on English Bards and Scotch Reviewers. He felt it was not up to the mark, however, but he had been too deeply injured—in his tenderest part—having been proclaimed a dunce, because he was a young lord—and he persevered, and did not leave till he had given adequate and most convincing refutation and shamed the whole race of critics in a succession of brilliant works in a new and almost startling vein of poetry. Here, too, it was his personal grievance against British society that, confined his coarse voluptuous nature, trained in a rather prosaic school of literature, into poetical protest and gave point to his rather country language and sublimated his rhetoric.

The actual prison-house has had its poetry. Early in modern English literature—in the middle of the 17th century—Richard Lovelace, a true Cavalier in every sense, thrown into unmerited confinement for being the bearer of his country's message to the King, was able to sing—

Stone walls do not a prison make,

Nor iron bars a cage;

Minds innocent and quiet take

That for an hermitage;

If I have freedom in my love

And in my soul am free,

Angels alone, that soar above,

Enjoy such liberty.

Daniel Defoe, a matter-of-fact publicist, who would, in ordinary course, have been ashamed of the dissipation of spinning rhymes, was stung by the degrading chastisement to which he was subjected to the

production of his "Ode to the Pillory." In our day, a poor working man, with a passionate ardour for improvement of self and the world, had, under the most stupendous difficulties, taught himself languages and all the learning of professors and devoted himself to the politics of the poor. His views were Radical, of course, but not more so than those of the Liberal party of the present day. In fact, nearly two-thirds of the People's Charter put forward by his party have been already won and are part of the law of the land and constitution of the nation. Yet, half a century ago, it was a crime to hold the tenets of that platform. The respectable—who are always the prudent—shrank from the appearance of sympathy with the Chartists, as these reformers were called, and men in high places did not scruple to hunt these unfortunates down as wild beasts. Many were those who under this cruel persecution turned their backs on their principles and even betrayed their own friends. Thomas Cooper, however, remained staunch. It was not long before he earned his crown of martyrdom. Under a cruel administration of justice, in connection with which the good name of Denman is compromised, he was unrighteously consigned to a felon's den. There he utilised his enforced leisure by writing a long and remarkable poem of many books and cantos. It is a series of historical scenes and comments on the characters concerned, without the unities of a single fable. But it shows varied learning and abounds in eloquence and contains many striking pages. Irish Fenianism and Home Rule certainly produced nothing near the "Purgatory of Suicides." The present crisis in Ireland has filled the gaols with men of education—the pick of Irish society, literary men in particular. But it has been singularly barren in literature. Parnellism has not yet given its oration or its poem to be remembered. The mad enterprise of 1802 was ennobled by the romance of Emmett's love and Emmett's eloquence. One stanza of Cooper outweighs all the parodies of T. D. Sullivan. The poetry of the Irish struggle of the day probably remains to be contributed by the pen of Wilfrid Blunt.

As usual, the *Indian Mirror* misled the public, unwittingly of course, by its alarming interpretation of a passage in the last speech of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India. That passage does not refer to the Indore State. We learnt the truth too late for our last impression. It would have been extraordinary even for the absurd and horrid thing that the Government of India is in our contemporary's diseased imagination, if, immediately after the Maharaja's return from his loyal voyage all the way to England to lend *eclat* to Her Majesty's Jubilee, Holkar was rewarded with his virtual deposition. As a matter of fact, there has never been any proposition of the kind from the "unspeakable" Griffin, nor is there any record in the Foreign Office of such idea being ever entertained in any quarter.

Of course, naughty as Sir Lepel Griffin has ever been, and much as he would like at this moment to mystify and confound us of the Bengal Press, he could scarcely, in a public speech, in his official capacity, deal in hoaxes. He must mean what he says, and some poor beggar of an Indian Chief is doubtless doomed. Who is he? There are so many chiefships in Central India that guessing is out of the question, unless a journal like to be made a—*Mirror* of. We have heard from a well-informed source that the doomed state is Dewas. But which Dewas? For there are two branches of the family.

Here our informant fails us. We think we can make a pretty sure guess. As the head of the Junior Branch is a fine young man in the good books of Government, it must be the Chief of the Senior family whom Sir Lepel will soon proceed to shear of his powers and privileges. In fact, this latter Chief has been in trouble for some time. The Government had repeatedly reported him, and there was a proposition to limit his powers. It would seem that Government had latterly made up its mind. We hope the Chief was at last roused to his danger by Sir Lepel's speech, and that he has given satisfactory pledges for the future.

We are glad to hear that the High Priest of Deoghur lately brought Baboo Hurro Nath Roy's *Midwifery Vade-Mecum*, which we reviewed at length in February, to the notice of the Association for supplying medical aid to the women of India, and that Major Cooper, the zealous first Honorary Secretary of the Society, promptly referred the matter to the Medical Board. It is believed that the Board has acted like a board—a screen that is. It has, without facing the question in the liberal spirit that its relation to human suffering demands, simply forwarded an old opinion of the Text-Book Committee which had voted against this valuable work on the ground

of its sanctioning the Homœopathic treatment. But the therapeutic part of the *Vade-mecum* is but an inconsiderable part of it, and certainly the Homœopathic bias of the treatise does not make its general science the less scientific, nor the vast experience of other kinds, which is treasured up in it, the less useful. The book does not eschew the Established Church in medicine. Perhaps, it may be introduced into schools with a proviso to pass over the Homœopathic treatment.

CHOLERA is raging in Cashmere. How can the Viceroy be going there?

THE disease is at our door too, not only in the Suburb of Bhowanipore but also in some of the native parts of the town, such as Coomertoollee, &c.

THIS afternoon the Viceroy took in Uttarpura on his way to Barrackpore (where he goes for the last time) visiting his colleague in the legislature, Raja Peary Mohun and the remarkable old man his father. There was a gathering of European and native friends on the occasion. An unfortunate accident marred the pleasure. A boat capsized, and Dr. Salzer, the eminent Homœopathic Physician, fell into the river. He was, however, promptly pulled up out of the water in a state of unconsciousness. The Maharaja of Vizianagram, like a true knight that he is, took an active and noble part in the rescue.

Now that Sir Rivers Thompson's and the Ramees' nominee in the management of the Digaputtee Estate, in Rajshaye, has been forced to resign, we hope the present Lieutenant-Governor will be in no haste to fill up the appointment at random. A man of character who has really had experience of zemindary management and surely such men must be known to the Board—ought to be appointed. No intrigue or favoritism ought to be allowed.

THE Viceroy is expected at the municipal meeting of Wednesday next. The chief business will be the adoption of the budget for the year 1888-99 and the fixing of the rates. We trust Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee will for the nonce emancipate himself from the influences of his stump, and prepare something good and worthy of his reputation and his best power. No *mudra*, mind!

The Municipal Budget Committee have recommended a House rate of 9 per cent. There was a proposition for 8½, but the other was carried by the second or casting vote of the Chairman.

THAT great Military authority the *Indian Mirror* notwithstanding, Lingtu has fallen. It was no tough work. The Viceroy thus announced in Friday's Council the success of British arms in Upper Sikkim:—

"Before we commence the proceedings of to-day it may, perhaps, be interesting to the Council to know that her Majesty's troops have taken possession of Fort Lingtu, Upper Sikkim, without opposition. On the 19th they came upon a small stockade erected by the Tibetans at which some small opposition was encountered, but with their usual gallantry our troops rushed at it, and the enemy fled with scarcely any resistance. The effect of this success seems completely to have disorganised them, and, as I have already mentioned, they have abandoned their position. I am in great hopes that this slight and facile vindication of our territorial rights will give us free access to the road through Sikkim which had been taken possession of by the enemy, and will close this trifling dispute which has unfortunately arisen between us and the Tibetans."

WE have no space for the proceedings of the Dufferin memorial. One speech, however, that of the Maharaja of Vizianagram, is at once brief enough for accommodation in our columns and interesting enough for preservation. We record it the more gladly that it could not be delivered, so that even those who were present missed it. The whole of it is characteristic for matter as well as manner. The knightly speaker concludes with a challenge to the *Mirror*. We are indebted to His Highness for a correct text:—

"Your Highness and Gentlemen,—It gives me great pleasure at being in the capital of this vast Empire, to join in doing honor, in the highest degree possible to us, to His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, Viceroy of India, and to give some tangible proof of our appreciation of his glorious rule for the last four years or so. The word 'glorious' is advisedly used by me, for I think no other term so aptly illustrates the many advantages the Empire at large has derived from His Excellency's Viceroyalty, which will signalise the period as the brightest epoch in the life of this nascent consolidated Empire of British Hindustan. His spirited frontier policy, while securing the friendly co-operation of our Northern neighbours on one hand, on the other presents this great Empire in an unbroken front

to our enemies, which is a higher and more insurmountable, barrier than our mountain ranges themselves on our Northern Frontier. Never was more spontaneous unity shown either by the Princes or by the people of India, in making common cause with the ruling power in preventing any attempt at making inroads into our Empire by enemies. This was all done with the least expense, within the shortest period possible consistent with the great advantages achieved. Then, again, the eradication of despotism in Burmah for ever in future should have won a golden statue from us, or from all those that breathe after civilization, and at least the title of Marquis or the Duke of Mandalay from the English Sovereign would not be too great a reward for such services. For I think Count Bismarck was made Prince for no greater acquisition gained by him for Germany than that which the Duke of Mandalay—I mean our present Viceroy—has gained in the interests of civilisation in general, and that of the British Empire in particular. For it is known to every one that the definition of politics and morals is one and the same—the greatest good of the greatest number. To the internal improvements effected by His Excellency, who can raise a dissenting voice? The two Commissions viz., the Finance Commission and the Public Service Commission, which His Excellency has constituted, must be admitted by all as being big with economical and other essential improvements of the administration. Above all, the Countess of Dufferin's medical aid to the women of India alone bears a fair comparison with any of the best deeds bequeathed by the very best in the long list of our most renowned Viceroys. Neither my humble means, nor my opportunities, allow me to say more of His Excellency's glorious rule. My only regret, and I think that of those of my countrymen is, that His Excellency should leave the field of his administrative triumph in this country so soon. As to the incoherent wailings of a small section of the community, I can only say that my harvest of gratification at the success that has crowned all His Excellency's praiseworthy endeavours for India, would not have been complete without this spectacle of a gnat of a scarecrow. I feel the aptness of the Persian saying *shabparagar wisley āstāb nakkhudhād Raonak e bāzār e āstāb nakkhudhād*. "Though the bat may refuse to fly in the light, that does not diminish the splendour of the luminary." When a misguided journal represents this august and most respectable body of representative native noblemen and gentlemen, who have requested your Highness to preside over them, as prompted by motives of personal interest, or some other unpraiseworthy motives, I wonder whether it is prepared to admit logically that the obverse is absence of reward, and produces abusive language which, in its abused and privileged freedom of speech, sets aside all feelings of decorum. If such a writer really mean this, I should be the first, if it were in my power, to give away my newly-obtained K. C. I. E. to him to save him from the desperate deplorings of his despondency. I believe he is only trying to amuse the public whom nothing short of a categorical and logical denial of what I have stated above will make me think that he is really in earnest.

That is, speaking moderately, at least as well-argued and as well-expressed as the best of our contemporary's "leaders."

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1888.

THE DUFFERIN DEMONSTRATION.

THIS has been the Viceroy's week. It commenced with a garden party at Government House, on Monday afternoon to all who have the *entrée* of the viceregal palace, given by Lady Dufferin. As their Excellencies are, after the middle of next week—Thursday morning—leaving Calcutta for aye, and as every day the thermometer is slowly but surely rising, it was understood to be the last out-door party—perhaps the last of the general invitations—given by the present heads of the Viceregal Court. Be that it was, there were other public engagements of a high description on the same date. Nevertheless, the extensive plain to the south-east of the Southern *façade* of the house itself was filled with a lively throng of Europeans and natives representing every section and profession. As usual, Lord Dufferin and his wife were attentive and courteous to all. The Grand Old Man of a Native A. D. C.—Gopal Singh—brought up everybody for introduction to her ladyship who shook each and every by the hand.

Now came the people's turn for the return due to the retiring heads of Government and society. On Thursday, commenced the demonstration in honor of their Excellencies. It may be regarded as partly a political and partly a social demonstration—political chiefly so far as his Lordship was concerned and wholly social in respect of her Ladyship.

It would have been better had the two things not been almost synchronous. But that is easier wished

than accomplished. Considering the warmth of the weather, considering the vast distances of the country and the still imperfect means of locomotion, and, last not least, considering the absorbing occupations of men at this season when we are threatened to be overtaken every day by the scorching Indian simoom, it would have been too much to expect of flesh and blood to gather from all parts of the Bengal Provinces to attend at two several meetings in these sultry afternoons and two deputations for the presentation of two separate addresses, and the party given to their recipients. For, a strict delimitation of the frontiers—a scrupulous demarcation of the boundaries between the political and the philanthropic and the social, would have required that sort of arrangement and have involved a considerable sacrifice of time and resources of all kinds. With all their zeal for their Excellencies, the practical good sense of the public revolted at the idea of paying so much for a whistle—a pedantic symmetry. Lord and Lady Dufferin themselves could scarcely afford the time for giving their separate audiences and then attend their Reception into the bargain. There was, in fact, a difficulty to begin with. There is a peculiarity in the present case which did not appertain to that of any other heads of the Viceregal Court. In previous administrations, the man was everything—the woman nothing. Here, closely entwined in the bonds of connubial affection, was a harmonious equal partnership of public beneficence. If my Lord is good—my Lady is better. Comparisons, always delicate, are specially odious in respect of benevolent work and workers. We are far from depreciating the ladies of the households of previous Governors-General. They have doubtless all or nearly all of them been gracious and kind in their spheres and in their respective ways. Even Warren Hastings' *inamorata*, the Baroness Imhoff, who was transferred from one man to another like a head of cattle for so much cash down, possessed a human heart, and there are traditions in our society of her great friendliness to her native servants. Lady Loudon, Lady William Bentinck, the Hon'ble Misses Eden, and Lady Cannington, interested themselves in the organization of charity, founding or forwarding institutions. Nevertheless, philanthropy occupied but a small portion of their attention, and, besides, there were whole periods of absolute indifference and neglect. We have now among us a lady who has distanced the best of them and who, for the first time within these twenty seven years, has, by the lustre of woman's sympathy for humanity in general, doubled the halo of triumph of a Viceroyalty. There is scarcely a single charitable institution in the country which has appealed to her in vain, which she did not, in some way or another, help, while the organisation of the Association for Medical aid to the women of India is a colossal undertaking, which by itself might make the highest reputation for any philanthropist. Hence the necessity of a formal regular treatment of her claims, as well as that of her illustrious husband's. It would not have done to have dismissed such a benefactor to India as Lady Dufferin with a perfunctory hole and corner compliment. A great public demonstration was required by the dignity of each case. But as time and breath had to be economised, the two movements were consolidated into one. Or, shall we say, a great forked demonstration embracing both their Excellencies was determined upon. First a meeting of the non-official community was to be held at which addresses to their Excellencies respectively and

memorials would be voted, and next evening a party given at which Lord and Lady would be received and the addresses be presented to them.

Accordingly, the movement for honoring Lord and Lady Dufferin, which had been brewing since the Requisition to the Sheriff was in circulation for signatures, burst forth in a great meeting on Thursday. It was a sunshiny, sultry day and, as the hour fixed was 4 o'clock in the afternoon, it was under the direct rays of the great luminary that people left their homes or places of business—to say nothing of the grilling, all day, of those who travelled down to Calcutta from the country. The gathering, unprecedented as it was within this generation, acquires a still greater significance from these circumstances. Nor was there that fictitious element of school-boys introduced from a very early hour, which has, of late years, discredited the meetings of our native agitators and stump orators. It was a serious business undertaken by practical men and pursued in a workmanlike manner. No opportunity was given to the spoiled children of Calcutta and the Suburbs to march from an early hour and take shelter from the sun within the Hall and rest and refresh themselves before, at the beck of their senseless schoolmasters, they might be called upon to vociferate cheers and clap themselves out of the skins of their palms. There was nothing underhand in this. It was announced some days before that the door would be opened only half an hour before the appointed time, and so it was. As was anticipated, a goodly number of schoolboys, headed by one or two school teachers, were in attendance from an early hour, but they were not allowed to enter and occupy all the seats as they do at other meetings leaving the adult and respectable part of the community—even the very men who had invited the public—to shift for themselves as best they might, by standing in the *punkaless* aisles, or to leave the business of the day to its fate and go home. Even to this juvenile mobocracy all due consideration, consistent with the claims of the business of the day and those of the comfort of the adult attendance, was shown. There was no rudeness towards them—there was no absolute prohibition against them—only half an hour was allowed to the above-aged public to enter and find their places, and then, about or soon after the commencement of the business, the non-aged were allowed to go in.

In twenty minutes, the long space between the colonnades was filled. A quarter more and the vast Hall was full to overflowing from end to end. Not only the middle of the hall but the long and roomy sides were packed in the most economical though not the most comfortable way. We are not good hands at estimating numbers and shall not venture on any beyond telling that there were several thousand. For there were quite as many men as the Hall could hold. Nay, more than it actually could hold. For, men were continually going out, driven by the heat and suffocation, while their room was immediately filled by new-comers. Thus the meeting was not only great in numbers but choice in its *personnel*. To begin with, it was a meeting of men—in legal as well as other senses—and not of infants. With the exception of a part of the boys mentioned before and a few younger pupils of the Meddresse who had got in under cover of their seniors, as also a few poor honest folk introduced by some overzealous men, the attendance was at once adult and respectable—composed of men of sufficient majority and of some sense of responsibility. It was a mot-

ley crew, however, in the best sense. The vast attendance was formed of various elements. The multitudinous throng was formed of all communities and of all classes. All the honest professions into which society is divided, had supplied their contingents. All the races too were fully represented. The Town Hall had become a hall of all nations and nationalities to be found in this Continent of an Empire. As a consequence, there is scarcely a people on the earth which had not furnished at least a sample. It was a joint demonstration of natives and domiciled and resident foreigners. Of course, the native element predominated, but Europeans were numerous too. There were Hindus and Mahomedans of every tribe and sect, Bengalis, Orissans, Beharis, Klings, Telogoos, Tamils, Carnats, Malabaris, Maharattas, Gujratis, Sikhs and other Punjabis, Parsees, Memons, Jains, Cashmerees, Lepchas, Goorkhas, Bhotas, Afghans, Persians, Turks, Arabs, Syrians, Jews, Mugs, Burmese, and even Chinese and Malays, Somalis, Abyssinians and Africans. With so many Orientals, the deportment of the attendance was naturally rather grave, but this was made up by the liveliness of the scenic effect from the variety of colour in the sea of faces and in the different costumes. The Europeans' behaviour was charming. Although they showed the way and undertook the trouble and responsibility of the arrangements, they were content to allow their Asiatic brethren full dues and even precedence wherever practicable.

It was a lucky accident that the High Sheriff of the Metropolis for the year happens to be a distinguished and accomplished Bengali gentleman, gifted with rare powers of eloquence. The Sheriff is the official privileged to call public meetings, and the fact of Dr. Mohendralal Sircar being the Sheriff no doubt imparted an interest to the occasion. Dr. Sircar did not make any oratorical effort, but still in opening the proceedings, with the reading of the Requisition of the Maharajas, Rajas, and gentlemen, European and native, headed by the Nawab of Moorshedabad, and his compliance therewith, he expressed his admiration of the character and abilities and antecedents of our Viceroy and touched on the philanthropy of His Excellency's consort. At the instance of the Nawab of Moorshedabad and the Maharaja of Doomraon, the chair was given to the Maharaja of Durbhanga. The first Resolution was now moved by Mr. L. P. Pugh, late a member of the British House of Commons and now one of the leaders of the Calcutta bar, for presenting the retiring Viceroy a parting Address, briefly reviewing the official career of Lord Dufferin. Mr. Pugh was seconded by Maharaja Narendra Krishna and supported by Nawab Abdool Lutef Bahadur and Mr. M. P. Gasper of the bar. The Second Resolution voting a statue was moved by the Hon'ble Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee seconded by Syud Ameer Ali Saheb and supported by Messrs. R. D. Mehta and Jaggannath Khannah. The next proposition was for an Address (which was read) to Lady Dufferin and for a portrait in the Hall in recognition of her public services, moved by the Hon'ble R. Steel, the mercantile member of the Legislative Council of India, and seconded by Master Hallett—no broth of a boy though, being the Master of the Trades—in other words the Chowdhri, or shall we say, *Doyen* of the Cockneys of Calcutta? They were followed on the same side by Shahzada Furrokh Shah, as the mouthpiece of the Princes of the House of Hyder Ali of Mysore. Then came a formidable cata-

logue of Committee-wallahs—far more tedious than Homer's catalogue of the Greek Fleet—to execute the behests of the meeting, with *carte blanche* to do and undo for the purpose of carrying out the objects. We are never going to inflict this long trailing list, the Alpha whereof is Sir Steuart Bayley, and the Omega, Mr. H. M. Rustonjee. The proposer and seconder were Messrs. J. G. Apcar and Manockjee Rustonjee, respectively, followed in support by Mr. R. Allen, barrister. Mr. J. E. D. Ezra, the Jew *par excellence*—in the best senses—seconded by Prince Jehan Kudr, the head of the Oudh Family, proposed the vote of thanks to the Chair. All these motions were carried *nem con*, we may say by general acclaim.

Oriental audiences are not demonstrative, and there was no wire-pulling at this meeting or even the slightest anxiety manifested by the promoters for effect. There was spirit in the assembly, and evident zeal depicted in many faces. The speeches were listened to with interest, and cheers were given even for indifferent smartness, until the heat of an almost April afternoon in that close atmosphere drove many to seek not comfort only, but very safety in the open without. And then the latter speakers completed the "stampede." This is a valuable quality of oratory in the Tropics, and speakers like Mr. Rowe and Raja Siva Prasad, both of the Education Department, might be utilised as patent ventilators. Seriously, these gentlemen's eloquence proved a godsend, for unless the room had been cleared to some extent, the gas illumination which followed would have been the death of the more delicate of the ladies and gentlemen present.

The truth is simple. "Speech is silvern, but silence is golden." Amen! So, oratory is, like the Rupees, going down, in the markets of the world, and everywhere losing favor. In India, it is among the lost arts, since Surendra Nath Banerjee was, by a stern Government, driven to the stump. This great and strong meeting was certainly not strong in the speaking. There was no end of speakers on the cast, though, and a number of volunteers besides, not bargained for, who ought to have been conjured to desist. The Maharaja of Vizianagram showed a rare wisdom and moderation in making over the rather striking little speech which he had got by heart and in his pocket, to the reporters.

Mr. Pugh has no advantage of voice, but he spoke with the weight of an ex-M. P. He made a good point at start, referring to Lord Dufferin's popularity among all parties. It must, said he, be an exceptionally able and sound man who could in England command the confidence of both sides of the House. Mr. Gasper spoke as an Armenian of Lord Dufferin's services as British representative in Turkey, and, like Mr. Pugh, dwelt on the success of the Viceroy's Imperial policy on both frontiers. For the rest, the speeches were an echo of the Addresses. For the first time, Nawab Abdool Lutef and Raja Peary Mohan raised their voices to speaking height, and the speech of the former was to the point, in choice language recommending the Address. And for once he did not inflict on us the Mahomedan legend. Usually in India speakers are permitted to deliver some generalities without regard to the particular motions. Thus poor Maharaja Narendra Krishna again produced his everlasting platitudes about India as the brightest jewel in the diadem of England, &c., &c., &c. Perhaps, the most notable speech was Mr. Mehta's, well-put, well-got up, and, though read from M.S., pronounced with force and effect.

There was visible the nervous trepidation of one who despaired of commanding attention at the fag end. Indeed, if he had not hurried through his speech, he would have been denied a hearing, and he showed great adroitness in securing it. Towards the end, he made one or two slips, but he each time was on his legs again. He chalked out an original line of treatment of his subject. The deficiencies in the oratory were amply made up in the able Address, the production, we believe, of Mr. S. E. J. Clarke, a well-known writer on the Bengal press. It is not only well-worded, but well-reasoned, and, above all, it possesses that moderation which draws general sympathy.

The next evening, the Town Hall was tastefully fitted up for a *Conversazione* for the viceregal reception. We would fain dwell on the delightful scene, but space forbids. Between a guard of honor of the Calcutta Volunteers—including artillery and guns and all, in fact, except horses—their Excellencies were led up, all the way from the flight of steps before the Maidan, till they were seated on the dais, the band playing.

At the conclusion of the march, the monumental figure of the Lieutenant-Governor might be discerned from the most distant corner of the hall. For, now standing up, Sir Steuart Bayley read the Address to the Viceroy, to which His Excellency gave an elaborate and brilliant reply containing a vindication of his administration. The reply was interrupted by frequent cheers which, on its close, rose to deafening and long continued—

Clap, clap, all together, clap, clap away,

For this is the way they exercise to have a little play,

when the British are supremely pleased.

Then came the turn of the worthy wife. Sir Alexander Wilson read the Address voted to her. In her reply, Her Excellency rose to the dignity, calm self-possession, and well-expressed fluency of the true orator. This brought the formal demonstration to a close, and with it virtually the Viceroy's Calcutta career.

As he began so Lord Dufferin ended—as a perfect gentleman—going round the place and offering his hand to all whom he met or met with.

Although cards were issued and the admissions to the party were select, the Town Hall was, on Friday evening, almost as densely filled as in the afternoon of Thursday. There was a distinct difference in the obvious preponderance at the *Conversazione* of the official element and in the agreeable preponderance of the fair sex. Yes, and the fair sex in very sooth and not of courtesy. There was scarcely a brunette. There was but a drop of the Eurasian element, either male or female, in the un-uniformed part of the attendance, though there were Volunteers of all shades, from brown to jet black.

The success of the demonstration is patent—its importance cannot be mistaken. Judged by the test stake in the Empire, there probably never was such another demonstration. There were almost sovereign princes and great territorial Dukes and Marquesses in the movement. All the European commercial and landed and professional interests were represented. All the Armenian and Jewish and Parsee families and houses of business—all the European trades. Messrs. Gubboy and Ezra between them own half Calcutta, besides being large creditors of the Public Debt. And what proof of earnestness can be more reliable than that of the Rajas, Maharajas and Nawab, who came down on purpose to lend their presence?

LORD DUFFERIN.

SIR,—Some of the Native papers, famous for notoriety-hunting, are trying to create an impression that the opposition that is being organised by the Indian Association, against the movement set on foot to do honor to the retiring Viceroy, has the sympathy of the Natives generally. The attempt is a very sinister one, and reflects credit of the meanest order to its authors. The Natives, a large, if not the entire, number of them, and specially those having reason and intelligence enough, have no sympathy whatever with the oppositionists, and those who say the contrary, speak but deliberate falsehood. Why, what earthly reason can there be for them to take up this hostile attitude? Lord Dufferin may not have done them positive good, but there can be no question that he has not done the slightest harm to them. That is more than can be said of many of our rulers. Why, then, should there be movements against him? All that can be urged against him, is that he has failed to please every body. But that is no fault, to be sure. We could do only what is just and proper. He can certainly could not listen to idle talk, or make concessions to unjust claims and demands. Can he then with any sense of reason and fair-play be held responsible for the heart-burning and displeasure, that are now being manifested in some quarters? And need I say that they are entirely wrong who think that the course adopted by the Indian Association, has the approval and sympathy of any reasonable sensible mind?

But the matter does not end here. Though firmly and decidedly opposed to the opposition, people must be prevailed upon to join it. And the arduous and onerous task has been zealously taken up by the so-called public-spirited and patriotic gentleman, Baboo, I beg his pardon, Mr. Surendra Nath Bannerjee, formerly of Her Majesty's Bengal Civil Service! This worthy champion of his country's cause, in discharge of the duties he has thus voluntarily and with becoming grace allowed to devolve upon himself, has sacrificed his own, so much so that he has given up sleep and meals almost. He may now be seen at the door of every native gentleman, exhorting the members of the house to join with him, and thus accomplish something grand that will immortalise their names! I do not know how far he has succeeded in his efforts, but he has simply driven himself into a position that no kind-hearted man can see without pitying. From this, Mr. Editor, know the value and importance of native movements, the mode of their organisations and developments.

By the opposition they mean to offer, they will, among other things, show how extremely mean-minded they are. For it is quite clear that their unhallowed zeal is simply an outcome of their disappointment at the non-fulfilment of their extravagant expectations. If, what they hoped for had been achieved, they would have undoubtedly by this time lifted the Viceroy up to Heaven, but the case being otherwise, they have now thought fit to send him down to perdition! thus showing the world what a mercenary lot they are, and how easily they can be gained over by simple bribes! I believe they know pretty well, or ought to know that their chances of success are very small. If they count some intelligent and capable men on their side, those who have purposed to honor the retiring Viceroy have such on theirs too, including both Natives and Europeans. Here, from the very beginning, they are thrown at a disadvantage. Not the least of their difficulties lies in the fact of their being out of sympathy of many of their own countrymen. Thus divided amongst themselves, will it not be the height of foolishness on their part to hope for success?

And need I remind them that they can't well compete with Englishmen. Just for a moment call to mind the energy, zeal and pluck the latter exhibited in the Ilbert Bill controversy. In a very short time, and in spite of the paucity of their numbers, and without a large class of wealthy men, they easily and in a short time raised more than a hundred thousand rupees! But what becomes generally of our Bengali efforts? A Fund, known as the "National Fund" was started by the same patriotic Mr. Surendra Nath Bannerjee, on coming out of jail (on the expiry of his term of imprisonment) for libelling a Judge of His Majesty's High Court some years ago, but to his disappointment and his admirers' eternal shame though there is no want of affluence among them it has reached but a few thousands only! But what is more strange, no account of the Fund is given, even if asked for.

To the Editor.

KISSORY NATH MITRA.

REVIEW.

Travels and Voyages between Calcutta and Independent Tipperah. By Sambhu C. Mookerjee, formerly Minister to His Highness the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor (the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa), latterly Minister of His Highness Maharaja Beer Chunder Dev Burmon Manikya Bahadoor, of Independent Tipperah. Calcutta: *Reis and Rayyet Office*. 1887.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as

well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a representation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, and also an administrator, as the reader will see from the little-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says:

"I was . . . more than ever confirmed in my opinion against confining animals. If all this sounds weak, there is no help for it: it is God's appointment that we should love His creatures that are lovable. We cannot escape from our hearts. For my part I never invite pets: it is too great a responsibility."

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell:

"Poor Tom, the noble pariah dog, is—I wish to Heaven I could say—gone. Alas! he was only going, too slowly perhaps for him, but surely. He was suffering dreadfully from fatal sores all over, specially in the head. He bore it up like a hero that he was. By pure power of will he kept himself from running mad. The best of us would be furious under less than his complaint. I may here say that I have seen better brutes than men. The dogs are indeed the noblest creatures of God. The three noblest beings within my knowledge were three perfect canine gentlemen—one a Newfound-

land, another of some large European breed, and the third a Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom."

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits :

"It is only since our country has been thrown open to foreign, above all, European enterprise, that our orchards and flower-gardens and kitchen-gardens have been vastly improved, that we have made the acquaintance of new and desirable eatables and drinkables, and acquired a taste for new comforts and luxuries, as well as the means for satisfying them. Undue pretensions must be curbed. It is necessary to keep the best men and races straight, and I have never been slow to prick when required—the objects of the attention enjoying the thing and it having, by the way, a wholesome effect on the neighbours and bystanders of all camps. But the insane jealousy of the White man I can never sympathise with. It is neither patriotic nor candid. It is simply ignorant and puerile. A moment's inward glance at the source of our most energising ideas, the slightest enquiry into the derivation of our physical enjoyments—of what we eat or drink, or wear, or sleep upon, or write with, what houses we live in, what furniture we use—ought to be sufficient to disabuse every honest Indian of the unfortunate prejudice. The stranger has given a substantial return. He has at any rate given you the golden *Champa* plantain : no Dead Sea apple, but with rich pulp within. It is your fault if you neglect it. Thus, in East Bengal, where his influence has been less felt, our brethren are without it. Here, then, is distinct room for improvement. The man that introduces in his district the exotic fruits and vegetables with which foreigners have enriched our land, will benefit at once himself and his country."

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian ; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive, and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated at 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British Indian" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told :

"They'd none of it, change or no change. In vain my people explained and entreated the clerks. The Government scrip was no currency on the Government railway. In vain my friends appealed to the Lord of the Terminus. My friends might be ever so respectable—and they included barristers, Presidency Magistrates and editors—but, for any assistance that I got from them in that dilemma, they proved the veriest scum of earth. The Railway King was inexorable ; I must bring silver, and that of the Calcutta mint. British dross—the sterling majesty of sovereigns—would have been spurned by His Imperial Majesty of Scaldah. It was a pretty predicament for a traveller to be in, with a whole lot of camp-followers and baggage of rather expeditionary proportions. There was not much time left, it having been nearly all consumed in argument and expostulation, and entreaty at different business centres at the station. Certainly there was no more time to go home for coined bullion, and little prospect, at that evening hour, of changing the note at the neighbouring money-scriveners. I had no other alternative to betake to than a leisurely retreat. . . . Practically it meant the loss of a week. If I missed that evening's chance, I must wait another seven days to be able to avail myself of the convenience of the larger steamer from Goalundo. . . . In this moment of despair my good genius turned up on the scene in the shape of a friendly official—a Justice of the Peace and a Magistrate—no honorary figure-head, but a regular stipendiary reality—and what not besides. At the advent of the great man there was a sudden change in my affairs. His very name acted as a charm on the rude railway establishment—his presence was a power of beneficence. Before he was fairly in the station—as soon as he was in sight, and my masters understood from my men that he was coming to see me off—my fortunes revived. Suddenly there came a relaxation in the hard and fast rule of the little men dressed in brief authority. The martinet was in a moment metamorphosed into the courtier. My note was recalled after having been peremptorily rejected. The Paper Currency, that had before been at such

discount, again fetched sixteen annas to the rupee. They not only accepted my note as legal tender, but, when it was found that the railway demand upon me was full one hundred rupees, they seemed sorry for the loss of opportunity to humour me with change in any form I might like."

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay ; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage ; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home ; but still he could not get away.

"His Highness himself, in his easy, indifferent way, withheld the final word. Perhaps it was rational instinct, rather than indifference. I was detained on this or that trumpery plea ; but so long as I remained at the capital, there was always business ; a more or less important sort to attend to. I call at the *Rajbari* to tender my parting blessing (as son of Brahma sprung from the divine mouth). I take leave of the sons, but the father is not to be thus 'done.' His Highness knows that my barge from Dacca has not yet arrived. If the barge is in sight, it is not yet at the landing. If the vessel is at anchor in port, the cargo is yet on shore. Thus from day to day, finally from morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve, and again the following morning, from an amiable inability to make up our mind—a generous indisposition to part ! Far from unpleasant is this dilly-dally, where there is no urgency, no peremptory call to promptitude. British employés know not this 'unbought grace of life.' They will probably not appreciate it. They have not the happiness of serving men, but are mere parts of a machine. We serve flesh and blood. The position of officials in native States has its disadvantages ; many enough, to be sure ; but it is not without ample compensations, and *this* is one of them. The longest night however, will become day, and I was allowed to say my effectual 'Good-bye.'"

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage ; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans ; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so ; but the peril is great—the peril of debt ; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy ; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* ; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land !

JAMES ROUTLEDGE, he

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

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WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,

on Wednesday, the 28th March 1888, at 3 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To consider the Budgets for the year 1888-89, as revised by the Committee.

2. To fix the rates at which the rates and taxes are to be imposed for the year commencing on the 1st April 1888, under Section 64 of Act IV. (B. C.) of 1876, as amended by Section 8 of Act VI. (B. C.) of 1881 and Act I. (B. C.) of 1882.

3. To renew the licenses for the licensed markets under Section 318 for the year 1888-89 as recommended by the Market Committee.

4. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 18th and 25th February and 3rd and 10th March.

5. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at Meetings held on the 16th and 17th February.

6. The Chairman to lay on the table vital statistics for the month of January.

At the close of the Special General Meeting a Special Meeting will be held.

1. The Chairman to lay on the table the Fire Brigade Budget for the year ending 31st March 1889.

2. To cancel the licenses of the under-mentioned premises as jute warehouses:—

(a) Nos. 42 and 43 Doorga Churn Mookerjee's Street, the owner having signified his intention not to renew the license.

(b) No. 43 Nimtollah Ghat Street, the owner having failed to pay the fee.

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Secretary to the Corporation.

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BETWEEN

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

We owe an apology to Mr. Sambhu C. Mookerjee for the apparent negligence with which we have treated that delightful work of his—*Travels in Bengal*. Mr. Mookerjee, as almost every one knows, is one of the best English scholars in India; he writes as gracefully as does the most scholarly Englishman, and ample proof of this is afforded in the pages

of his book before us, which is an interesting narrative of four journeys—"two trips to Tipperah and two trips back"—accompanied by historical, geographical, cartographical and many other—ical notes of the lands passed through. We confess we have been but through the first half of the work, and, as we have proposed to review it in two papers, we think our progress sufficient for present purposes. Our author has not, as far as we have read, met with those thrilling adventures we read of—oft with a certain amount of sneaking disbelief—in the average hunter's narratives or traveller's tales; peaceful as the bosom of a still lake were his journeyings in Bengal Proper. He carried no formidable weapons with him, save and except a rusty old gun which, when called into requisition once, refused to go off; and yet withal, few more delightful works of travel in India have we read than the one now under our hands. The charms of true yet eloquent description, the force of observation, the gift of seeing sermons in stones, are all possessed in a great degree by Mr. Mookerjee; and we are pleasantly surprised at the lively and fascinating manner in which he can palm off on the reader the dreariest incident of his trips. Mr. Mookerjee will forgive us if we mention that we think him a very gallant old gentleman—with the accent on the second syllable. He has evinced in his little work a weakness for describing the Beauties of Bengal with all the poetic ardours of a Strephon. Did we not know enough of the erudite and good old "Babu" editor, we might be inclined to call this particular weakness of his, in Carlyle's language—"a Byronism of taste." Here is how he speaks of a beautiful damsel he saw disporting in the running waters of the beautiful Megna, at Sonargoan:— [Extract.]

But the above excerpt is not the best thing in the book by far. Although every line in it which we have gone over, is a line that we ourselves having written, would not wish to blot out, there are passages in it which surprise us and raise our hearts to a higher level by their eloquence, their beauty and wealth of expression. Running through the pages of *Travels in Bengal* is a vein of quiet humour—that humour which makes us fall in love with the writers and tempts us to fly to the Wednesday and in trouble, for a return of serenity in moments of vexation. Mr. Mookerjee has, in his work, added one more to the innumerable anecdotes relative to the fidelity of man's best friend among brutes—the dog. The sentinel duties of a canine phenomenon—Tom by name—are related in glowing terms, but we shall not rob the author of one of his finest plums by transferring it into our columns. This review, as we have already stated, is but the introductory one. In our next, or a little later, we shall take up Mr. Mookerjee's book where we are leaving it off, and make our readers a little more familiar with one of the cleverest native gentlemen of the day and with his interesting book on travels in Baboodom. Mr. Mookerjee, like all his fellow mortals, is human, and he has let us know this in his present work. How, we propose to state only in our second review. Would he however pardon us if we surrender to the temptation of finishing this up with his pretty remarks about Mooning and the Moon. After "the contending gods of the elements" had "left off" one night when our traveler was on the bosom of the Megna, he watched Luna issue from behind the clouds in all her grandeur and radiance. That sight, so delightful to the mind with a leaning towards the aesthetic and poetic, gave vent to the following: [Extract.]

Now, the above will prove a grand surprise to the European readers especially, who may perhaps be unkind enough to doubt that it was written by a "Babu" just as people have doubted that Shakespeare was really the author of *Shakespeare* and Tennyson the author of *Tennyson*. Mr. Mookerjee and we part here, but when work is done and we sit in our cosy arm-chair at home and watch, as is our wont, the blue smoke curl gracefully away from our pipe, we shall dream with waking eyes of the beautiful Megna and the damsels of Bengal, of the moon and the waters, and we know that we shall again take up the *Travels in Bengal* and satisfy our wish of getting to the end of such a pleasant little work.—*The Malabar and Travancore Spectator*, February 4, 1888.

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Womesh Chunder Roy, L. M. S., Medical Practitioner, Bhagalpur. 30th October, 1886."

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1888.

No. 317

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

LORD DUFFERIN has left the world of Calcutta to the heat of the sun of the season and the fierce light of the everlasting *Indian Mirror*,

The light that never was on sea or land,
but by no means

The consecration, and the poet's dream!
unless it be the Parsee Poetaster's.

It is rather a light that makes its inherent darkness visible.

As faithful chroniclers of contemporary men and manners, incidents and humours, unto astronomical phenomena, it is our office to note the notable days in the Calendar and warn the public of the coming events that already cast their shadows before. To-day is the end at once of the week and the month. To-morrow the *Indian Mirror* will come out in all its glory—of cap, feathers, and all.

E'en Sunday shines to-day to it. And
And to-morrow is specially its own. Hip—Hip—Hip! P'shaw!
P'shaw! P'shaw!

THE Viceroy started on Thursday, for the summer retreat of the Government of India. He does not go direct, but visits Rewah, Lucknow, Murree, and Srinagar, reaching Simla on the 10th May.

No! That is not all the programme. The lynx of the Calcutta Press dogs the footstep of Lord Dufferin and has discovered something closely resembling a mare's nest in the viceregal itinerancy, or at least strongly smells a rat somewhere. It will not be a through journey even to Allahabad, but there will be a suspicious halt at Gidhore Station, "for," as the *Indian Mirror* characteristically puts it, "the purpose of meeting the Maharaja of Gidhore"—in plain English, we suppose, to allow that Chief—a nobleman of large possessions—to pay his parting respects to the Viceroy. But there is a deeper sore in the lacerated heart. Our contemporary hears that the Maharaja has been recommended for a K. C. I. E. ship. Ay! there's the rub!—There's the defect that makes calamity of so long life, shattering the tranquillity and patience of our Mahatma of the Manger! Instantly the fit of pique on our contemporary, and then the delirious catechising begins. Why so? what for? And well may our contemporary be aggrieved when "It is said the Viceroy takes a special interest in him"—the Maharaja. Doesn't that look like that lucky fellow of Gidhore already bearing the decoration on his manly breast and pricking the eye of long-eared Envy with the fine points of its brilliants, while the Mahatma is left in the lurch "unhousel'd, disappointed, unanel'd."

It is a pity that our contemporary should be so much at the mercy of its allies and spies. It is always being ill served, not to say hoaxed. It somehow never gets the full information on any subject or occasion, even when a Confidential Government Clerk or a European who ought to know is the informant. What wonder that in this instance it has heard of the Viceroy's special interest in his Maharajaship of Gidhore but has not been told of the grounds of the extraordinary phenomenon? Let not our contemporary despair. It has shown rare instinct for rottenness and it has only to pursue the track. Nothing like perseverance! It may yet make a discovery eclipsing all its former

triumphs—a great equine egg (to use a Bengalicism which will drive the point more home) before which its find of the mare's nest of the Viceroy's Secret Despatch to the Secretary of State for gagging the Bengali Press and suppressing liberty of thought and expression in general, will pale into insignificance.

THE Dufferin Demonstration over, we hope the city will now turn its attention to the Municipal Bill. The Council meets next Wednesday.

To meet the Budget expenses of the next year commencing tomorrow, the Municipal Commissioners, at their meeting of Wednesday, without previous intimation as required by law, increased the House rate of the expiring quarter by $\frac{1}{2}$ and fixed it at $8\frac{1}{2}$ for the next year. Of the other rates for the next year, the water rate has been increased by $\frac{1}{4}$ to $5\frac{1}{4}$, the lighting rate remains the same at 2, and the police rate reduced by $\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{4}$.

IT was announced that Lord Dufferin would visit the Commissioners in meeting with a visit, and they met in large numbers on Wednesday and conducted themselves, specially in the presence of the Viceroy, as decent practical men of business, and left the best impression on the visitor. Before leaving them, after half an hour's stay, the Viceroy wrote out the following note for the Chairman:—

"When the meeting is over, will you kindly express on my behalf the great pleasure I have derived from having had an opportunity of witnessing their proceedings. To see so many persons of position and intelligence, representing as they do both the European and the Native element, devoting their time and talents to the improvement of the town of Calcutta, is very satisfactory; I must also add that I have been much struck by the orderly, practical, and dignified manner in which the business of the meeting has been conducted. My best sympathies and good wishes will always accompany the labours of the Municipal Council, and the welfare of those whose affairs they administer."

At the instance of the Hon'ble Kallynath Mitter, the meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Lord Dufferin for the honor done to the meeting by the Viceregal presence. Before leaving the Hall Lord Dufferin in company of Mr. Turnbull inspected the oil-paintings that adorn the landing. The editor of the *Indian Mirror* who is a Commissioner was not present. But his spirit—"double," in Theosophic parlance—was there, doubtless. Accordingly he followed up the incident with one of his peculiar statements, reducing the viceregal grace as much as possible by saying that His Excellency "stayed for about five minutes."

MR. TURNBULL made over charge of his office yesterday. He retires from the Municipality after a service of 30 years. For the zeal with which he served the Municipality, the Commissioners have not thrown him over in his grey hairs. The city has also done him honor. And last, not least, the *Englishman* has given him the rare distinction of a fine "leader" all to the popular Town Secretary.

MAHARAJA Holkar has placed the resources of his State at the disposal of Government.

THE Mahomedans in Bombay held a kind of jubilee over the Jubilee title of Shums-ul-Ulama conferred on Kazi Sherif Abdul Lutiff Lunday.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE N. W. P. Legislative Council has—as might be expected—abandoned the Bill to regulate the possession and sale of poisons.

LORD ROSEBERRY moved for a Committee toward reform of the House of Lords. The House rejected the motion by 96 to 50 votes.

CAPTAIN DUNCAN STEWART, of the 2nd Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders, stationed at Bareilly, has put an end to his life—to end the monetary difficulties in which he had involved himself.

GUARD BROOKES has been sent by the Punjab High Court to jail for 5 years to labor, for indecent assault on a Mrs. King in December last on the North-Western Railway.

THE Financial Statement for 1888-89 appeared on the 26th March, the following being the official summary:—

The Financial Statement for 1888-89 is published in the form of a Minute by Mr. Westland.

It first briefly refers to the causes which obliged the Government, in January last, to seek an improvement of revenue of nearly Rs. 2,000,000, and to the financial discussions which then took place in the Council.

It announces the result of the accounts of 1886-87 to be a surplus of Rs. 178,427, after charging off Rs. 325,626 on account of Special Defence works. The differences from the Revised Estimates were explained to Parliament on September 9th last, and they had already been, for the most part, published in India in April.

The Revised Estimates for 1887-88 show a deficit of Rs. 2,448,000, without counting Special Defences expenditure amounting to Rs. 569,000. This result is worse than Budget by Rs. 2,464,000. Of this amount, Rs. 1,059,000 arise out of the charge for anticipated interest which was explained by Sir J. Gorst to arise out of the conversion of 4 per cent. Sterling Stock. Rs. 830,000 are caused by excess of Army charges in Upper Burma, and Rs. 710,000 by fall of exchange to about 16'9 pence. The fall of opium revenue is made up for by improvements in other principal Revenue heads, and the loss under Railways by savings in expenditure and by better receipts under various heads. It is explained that the Revised Estimates are based upon the actual transactions of eleven months and a moderate estimate for the month of March. But the transactions of the month of March are on such a large scale, that they afford room for very considerable variations, which cannot be completely known till about April 20th.

The Budget, made up at the same rate of exchange, namely, 16'9 pence, shows almost the same result as was anticipated in the Estimate of the financial position presented to the Council on January 27th, namely, a surplus of Rs. 423,000. The Revenues, as shown in the Estimates, show one year's advance over the standard then based on the Estimates of 1887-88; but this advance is absorbed by the continued additions to Army expenditure arising out of the augmentation of the forces. Rs. 824,000, is provided for extra Military expenditure on account of Burma.

Against the surplus of Rs. 423,000 is to be taken the expenditure on Special Defences, which are this year to be pushed on with great vigour, and will involve expenditure of Rs. 1,121,000, half of which is in England; so that, including these charges, there is a deficit of Rs. 698,000.

Mr. Westland goes on to review in some detail the state of the Revenue and Expenditure under each of the main heads, giving an account, among other things, of the progress of Land Revenue, the administration of Excise Revenue, the first year's operations of the Income Tax, the condition of Railway Finance, and the burden of debt.

His summing up is as follows:—

"Our finance is a strange blending of elements which we can regard with a feeling of certainty and confidence, and of large outlying uncertainties over which we have no control. If we look at those heads of Revenue and Expenditure which depend upon our own administration, we have every reason to be satisfied. Land Revenue, Salt, Stamps, Excise, Customs,—all of these are elastic and progressive. Post Office, Telegraph, and Forest, all of which may be regarded as quasi-commercial Departments, are more remunerative every year. Civil and Public Works expenditure are well under control. Railways afford a certain and an advancing Income, and the only difficulty connected, from a financial point of view, with the account of their revenues, is the vastness of the transactions, which is such that five per cent. increase or decrease in their earnings may make a difference of a million, each way, in our accounts.

"These are the elements of satisfaction and of comparative certainty. On the other side, we have 8½ millions of our revenue, —namely, the Opium Revenue—liable to be adversely affected, and at the present moment adversely affected, by the policy of China, and the increasing competition of other nations to supply the Chinese demand. We are obliged, by our military position, to take a share in the policy of armament which, willingly or unwillingly, the great European nations have been driven to adopt. And finally, and more directly affecting us, is the uncertainty of silver. The fall in its value seems to be temporarily arrested, but no one can say for how long we shall have a respite from the progressive increase of our burdens which this fall has hitherto imposed upon us. The chances of famine too, are to be regarded, though it is certain that, through the extension of Railways, a new famine will be combated with very much smaller outlay of money than any former one.

"The question of Indian Finance is, therefore, the question whether, in the face of all these uncertainties, our margin is sufficiently large. The security of our present financial position depends upon our

estimate of how far we may consider that, though these special burdens cost us net Rs. 3,174,300 in the particular year 1888-89, it is sufficient, on an average of years, to provide only Rs. 2,476,000 for them. The present scale of expenditure in Upper Burma and on Special Defences is practically certain of early reduction; but although it is possible that Famine charges and Exchange may add to our expenditure as much as we are in other directions relieved of, we have adopted a high standard in measuring our financial obligations, and can point with some confidence to the recuperative power shown by our revenues, and to the fact that their natural increase, much more than any special measures of taxation, has hitherto enabled us to meet the ever-growing burdens which recent years have forced upon us."

The state of Provincial Finance is then reviewed and summed up as follows:—

"There is therefore none of the Provincial Governments which has not revenue enough for its present scale of expenditure, or rather, which has incurred any permanent obligations as to expenditure, which are beyond the scale of its revenue. Moreover, all the principal ones have balances which they are seeking the means of profitably expending. Their position is in curious contrast with that of the Imperial Government. But though the Imperial Government may for the time pay the Provincial Governments in their possession of assured revenues and high balances, it should be borne in mind that these ample revenues have been created by the provincial system, and would not have existed but for the assignment to the Provincial Governments of their share in the improvement of them."

Some details are then given as to the progress in the construction of Railways, both by the Government directly and by the Indian Midland, the Bengal-Nagpur, and the Southern Maharatta Companies. Altogether more than eight millions sterling will be spent in England and India on Railway Capital Account during 1888-89.

It is announced, with the usual reserve, that the Secretary of State proposes to raise fourteen millions sterling by Council Bills, and that the Government in India will raise a rupee loan of three crores, of which half a crore is required for the Calcutta and Bombay Dock-works.

IN further development of local self-government in Bengal, Mr. Colman Macaulay has addressed the following communication to the Commissioners of the several Divisions. The letter is numbered 1004-1011, dated Calcutta, the 24th March 1888:—

"Sir,—The experience of the working of the provisions of the Bengal Municipal Act, so far as they relate to the constitution of Municipal Committees, has pressed upon the consideration of the Lieutenant-Governor the question whether the present system under which a proportionate number of the Commissioners is nominated by Government, can be generally continued. The system is intended to secure a valuable object:—(1) to provide for the presence on the Board of men of administrative and professional knowledge and experience who might not obtain or seek admission to it by election; (2) to provide for the protection of special interests or of the interests of unrepresented minorities. In practice, however, it has been found to have two inconveniences. In the first place the minor Municipalities are practically homogeneous in population, and there are in them no minorities to be protected. Here it has become the fashion to regard the nominations of Government as a means, not of reducing the balance against minorities, but of securing the safety, or the triumph, of parties or of persons. The nominations are looked upon as a sort of second election by which failures at the hustings may be retrieved, or men who have shrunk from seeking the popular verdict on their conduct, or their claims, may receive appointment at the hands of Government. The result is that Government and the local officers are besieged with applications on behalf of this person or that, and reasons are dictated, and a line of conduct generally laid down, by representatives of the different factions. In the second place, in outlying Municipalities, the local officers have in most cases no real knowledge to guide them in making their selections, and such information as they can obtain is only a sort of reflection of public opinion as already expressed by the electors' votes. It is clearly destructive of the best interests of local self-government that the pernicious practice of seeking to enlist the action of Government in aid of personal or party interests should be encouraged.

2. On the other hand, in Municipalities where various religions are found in the population, it is generally the case that the members of a minority, if it is not wholly insignificant, inhabit particular wards, and that their combined votes can secure their representation. The power of redressing any want of representation is, for one to which the Lieutenant-Governor attaches much weight, and the question of the necessity of such protection must be carefully weighed in considering in what Municipalities the power of nomination can be abandoned.

3. Speaking generally, Sir Stuart Bayley considers that if it can be secured that there shall be on every Board one or two representatives of Government who would stand aloof from parties, while helping to protect the interests of minorities, and would give practical and professional advice when these are required, the present system of nomination might in many places be done away with altogether. With this safeguard, he believes that a measure which would place upon the people of the towns the responsibility of electing their own commissioners would be a wise and prudent step in the direction of developing self-government. He would provide that in each Municipality, except in cases where it is not considered desirable to effect a change in the existing system, there should be two *ex-officio* members—

(1) The Civil Surgeon of the district.

(2) A magisterial officer to be appointed for the time being by the Magistrate of the district.

The remainder of the commissioners would be elected. This would, of course, not do away with the provision under which Government nominates in default of election.

4. The changes proposed in this letter would involve the amendment of the existing law, and his Honor desires therefore that they may be carefully considered with reference to the circumstances of each Municipality in your division. Sir Steuart Bayley's view would generally be in favour of the surrender of the power of nomination where its retention is not essential to the attainment of the objects above referred to.

5. I am to ask that your reply may be submitted not later than 1st May."

IN commemoration of his visit to the British capital of the South, the Maharaja of Travancore has put himself down for Rs. 3,000 in aid of the Fund being raised for giving Madras a Town Hall.

SAIYAD Barghash, Sultan of Zanzibar, returned to Zanzibar on 26th instant and died at midnight. His brother Khalifa proclaimed Sultan this morning (27th). All quiet.—Press Commissioner's Telegram.

Nazir Muhammad Sarwar Khan, who was Governor of Herat while the Boundary Commission was on the frontier, is reported to have recently died at Kabul.

Sardar Ayub Khan and Hashim Khan reached Bagdad on the 25th instant. Captain Evans Gordon has been appointed Political officer in charge of the Sardar and his parties.

The escort of the Afghan Boundary Commission were at Farrah on the 12th instant. All well.—Press Commissioner.

THE *Eastern Herald* of Mhow reports that, on the night of the 22nd instant, two European soldiers of the Cantonment went to Gangla Kheri, a village in Holkar territory, and entered, with loaded guns, the house of a villager, it is presumed, with no good intentions. The villagers gave the alarm and reported the matter to the Durbar Police. The Havildar in charge of the Police station with other men arrived on the spot, and, in attempting to arrest them the soldiers fired on one Police Sepoy and a *Nakadar* of the Forest Department in the service of the Holkar Durbar, and then ran away. The matter was reported to the Durbar Wakil at Mhow who sent the wounded men to the Inspector of Police, and the men are now in hospital in a precarious state. The perpetrators of this outrage have not as yet been discovered, although active steps were at once taken by the Military and rities and the police. The search continues.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

UPPER Burma ceases to be a field service from the 1st of April. It had long ceased to be separately shewn in the Budget, and the Commander-in-Chief had won his *Bhatta*.

THE new official year introduces a general convenience in this Presidency. The postal money order, hitherto restricted to particular parts and payments, will be received in satisfaction of all kinds of public demands, whether as land revenue, Zemindary dak, road and public works cesses, or others.

BEFORE bidding good bye, the Viceroy had been visiting the city—its institutions, bustis and burning ghats. All Tuesday morning, the 27th March, was occupied with penetrating to the backslums of Black Town, no small sacrifice of comfort and no small risk to health. It was imposed mission of thoroughly knowing the country and understanding the life of the people over whom he had been sent to rule and whom he was now leaving rather suddenly. He was *chaperoned* by Sir H. Harrison and Mr. H. S. Cotton, and the municipal officers.

KHETTER NATH MITTER, a medical man of this city, was, on the 26th, found shot with his second son in his own house. The father has since died. The eldest son has confessed the deed. The reason given is that the father refused to find security for an employment and that the brother stood in the way. That is no sufficient explanation for the parricide. The father must have offended the son in other ways.

THE proprietor of the *Projabandhu* has succeeded in his appeal to the Pondicherry Court. He was sentenced at Chandernagore to six months' imprisonment for swindling—by withholding payment of the lottery prize of Rs. 1,600. The superior court of four judges were divided in opinion and the Court, after reserving judgment for a week,

decided that the recipient of the prize had, by delay and acceptance of part payment, allowed the transaction to assume a civil form.

Along with others of our contemporaries, we have received a telegram from Pondicherry, regarding this case, with a special call upon us to apologise for our original treatment of it. We are not to be so easily turned. We are glad at the result, though. The man has already suffered enough.

MR. A. PHILLIPS, Standing Counsel, goes on furlough for one year. Mr. L. P. Pugh officiates. The all-knowing *Mirror* is sure to trace the officiating appointment to the part Mr. Pugh took in the late demonstration. The Calcutta bar, even with the return of some of the grand seniors, can scarcely afford to lose, though only temporarily, so learned a lawyer and so fearless an advocate. It was Mr. Phillips who snubbed a *quondam* Judge by referring him to the pages of *Punch*.

WE learn from the Mhow paper that

"Kumar Chatra Singhji, Heir Apparent of Rajpipla in the Rewa Kantha, is making an extended tour through Upper India. He reaches Delhi on the 1st April, and, after a short stay there, visits Cawnpore, Agra, Allahabad, Lucknow, and Benares. He then goes up-country as far as Lahore, paying a flying visit to Simla *en route*, and returns homewards, via Delhi, about the 1st May."

That tour will be a good education to the Kumar Saheb. And home travel of the kind is without the evils of foreign travel to our princes. Even for unprincipled native Indians a residence in Europe is not without its risks, as too many families know to their cost. It is a grave responsibility for guardians to send their boys abroad.

LIFE in Central India must be a jogtrot pace indeed, when, under date the 21st March, the Barwani Correspondent of the *Eastern Herald* reports the visit of the Political Agent of Bhopawar on the 22nd February. The Political Agent was received, under a salute of 11 guns, by the Dewan and other State officials. The Maharana who had been absent at Boria, hastened back to the capital on the 25th. The Political came out of the city to receive His Highness—an honor never before done him. On the 29th February, the Maharana received the Political Agent in state, when the latter returned His Highness's visit. Heart-burning was caused by the omission to summon many of the state officials usually admitted on such occasions. The Political Agent came to enquire into the complaints of maladministration of the Raj. The Madwara mosque case is still pending, the Mahomedans complaining of injustice at the hands of the Hindu officials headed by the Hindu Dewan. The present Dewan is not giving satisfaction apparently. Great credit is given to the former Dewan, Khan Bahadoor Mahammad Najaf Khan, who raised the state to the highest pitch of prosperity, though we should suspect he was too much a creature of the British Government and too little a servant of the Raja and the Raj. We believe he was more anxious to make things pleasant for Europeans than to maintain the rights of the state and do justice to the people. These "loyal and faithful servants of the Government of India" never make the best ministers, though, of course, being familiar with British routine, they may give some shape to the state machinery and a decent administration.

THE Punjab—an Ethnic and Theological Frontier—has a soil highly favorable to the growth of Heresy and Heresiarchs. The stern monotheism of Islam has there been split into how many sects! The simpler monotheism of Guru Nanak itself has been broken into different shapes between Muzbees and Akalees. In our own day, Ram Singh the carpenter preached a new form and founded a new sect, which has, we believe, been consolidated by the martyrdom of many of its members. The late Vedic Revivalist Dayanund Saraswati, though he began his mission among the Banias of Katther, found at last his congenial field in the unsophisticated enthusiasm of the Land of the Five Rivers. And now we hear of the rise of another Prophet in the person of S. N. Agnihotri. He had hitherto been a zealous Brahmo missionary, but the example of so many enterprising doctors, schismatics and saints and the character of the people have not been lost upon him, and he has started separate business on his own account. Probably, the scandalous dissensions which, since the death of the lamented Keshub Chunder Sen, have taken place among the members of the New Dispensation to which he belonged, have not been without their

influence on him. At any rate, he has renounced the Brama Samaj and set up a creed of his own called "Deva Dharma." He has announced his prophetic mission as derived direct from Heaven at Lahore, and already counts followers who believe him to be greater than Jesus or Sankar or Buddha or Chaitannya.

THE untimely death of Mr. Jamsetjee Nusserwanjee Petit has removed one of Bombay's most amiable and promising citizens, as it deprives the Parsee Rothschilds of one of the dearest members of their family. He had done nothing striking, perhaps, for he was no showy or fussy man. But he had done good work in a modest noiseless way for the culture as well as general advancement of his own community. Above all, he led an exemplary life, pure and wholesome, and has left a fragrant memory of sweetness and light. He was, in fine, that rare character—a gentleman of the sterling sort.

Look who that is most virtuous alway ;
Privy and apert, and most intendeth aye
To do the gentle deedés that he can,
And take him for the greatest gentleman.
Christ will we claim of him our gentleness,
Not of our elders for their old richness ;
For though they give us all their heritage,
For which we claim to be of high paráge,
Yet may they not bequeathen, for no thing,
To none of us their virtuous living.

In every relation of life, whether as a son or a nephew, a brother or a friend, a subject of the state or a member of society, a Parsee or a man, he aspired after a high standard. The loss of such a man is at once a private and a public calamity.

And it has been worthily commemorated. Charity, thy name is Parsee ! And the Parsees have out-Parsee'd themselves on the present occasion. And the munificent Petits of Bombay have more than ever covered themselves with a lasting halo. In memory of their near and dear one, and for the glory of the All-good Ormuzd, the father gives 3½ lacs for a Parsee orphanage and Rs. 80,000 for a sanatorium at Bandora. The other members make up the total amount of Rs. 10,00,000. There is not another community in the world that can show such a record. Here is a nation of Peabodys.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY presided at the last distribution of prizes at the Ripon College owned by Baboo Surendranath Banerjee. A student of the City College writes to the *Dainik*, "that in pursuance of an advertisement in the *Bengalee*, I went to the Ripon College to witness the ceremony on Saturday the 24th March at 3-30 P.M., the public having been invited. I found some gentlemen (about four in number) returning, being refused admittance by a teacher of that College Ram Chundra Palit. It is useless to say, I fared no better. The hour fixed for the meeting was 4-30. When I was there, many persons had not assembled. Arrived at the gate, I was asked whether I was a student of the College. On my replying in the negative, I was sternly refused admittance. I consequently came back. Has the advertiser learnt this lesson from the recent meeting at the Town Hall or was the advertisement meant to notify that the College would be consecrated by the dust of the feet of the great. The advertisement ought to have specified the gentlemen to be admitted." The *Dainik* remarks—Baboo Surendra is the hero of "our boys," then why this rigid order for their exclusion ?

MR. DOSABHOY FRAMJEE, C. S. I., City Magistrate, Bombay, has retired from active service. He is one of the men of light and leading in Western India—one of the small band of indefatigable public men and publicists to whom the progress of the country is, in no small measure, owing. For he was a public man long before he was a public servant in the ordinary sense of a stipendiary employé. He commenced as a journalist, and his career recalls the early history of the Press and native connection therewith. Like the Hindoo Collegians of an earlier date at Calcutta, the Elphinstonians at Bombay gave a great impetus to journalism and, in fact, all forms of educational activity. While Mr. Sorabji Shapoorjee Bengalee was conducting the *Bombay Sumachar*, the late Nowrozjee Furdoojee and Mr. Dadabhoj Nowrozjee started and edited the *Jam e Jamshad* and the *Rast Goflar*, respectively.

Mr. Framjee has crowned his early career as an anonymous publicist, by the publication in *propria persona*, in the full maturity of his powers,

of a standard work in two rich volumes of beautiful letter-press and illustrations, on the History of the Parsees. It is appropriately dedicated, by permission, to the Prince of Wales. It is rare for a native of India to write so good a book, and rarer still for him to receive such countenance and patronage. It is fashionable among the high and mighty, in India at any rate, to snub the aspiring Indian who publishes.

Mr. Framjee had before enriched his vernacular Guzrati literature, with an account of his travels in Europe.

LADY DUFFERIN will be remembered in India for the movement that bears her name in aid of the suffering womankind in India. A greater relief has just been secured them by Lord Dufferin. The Act to amend the law relating to Imprisonment for Debt to be henceforth known as Act VI of 1888, in the form recommended by the Select Committee and published in our issue of the 3rd March last, was passed by the Imperial Legislative Council on Friday the 23rd inst., and became law from next day. Whatever differences of opinion might still subsist on the general policy of this enactment, one important provision must be welcome to all well constituted minds—certainly to all who are earnest in the cause of refinement of feeling and manners. There may yet be old-fashioned people who cling to the creditor's privilege of confining his debtor, as to one of the foundations of society, but there is not an Indian who will not bless Lord Dufferin for restoring woman her old liberty—freedom from jail for debt.

Raja Pearymohun Mookerjee moved to exempt rent suits under Act VIII of 1885 from the operation of this law. There was much opposition to his motion, and it was not carried.

ON such subjects it is useful to consult the most advanced opinion in America. It is the nearest approach to listening to the voice of posterity. It gives one confidence in one's efforts at emancipation from the influence of tradition and authority—from our grosser self and lower surroundings. Nor is there any risk in the operation. If the United States-men are go-ahead, they are eminently practical—sound at core, for, after all, British in race and Teutons in origin, most of them.

We have before given our readers an opportunity of seeing in a poem by one of the most popular Transatlantic singers, how the practice of sending a man to jail for mere debt—without dishonesty—is viewed by liberal minds on the Western Hemisphere. We greet the present occasion with a passage from a speech of Daniel Webster, the great American orator :—

"We talk much, and talk warmly, of political liberty ; and well we may, for it is among the chief of public blessings. But who can enjoy political liberty if he is deprived permanently of personal liberty, and the exercise of his own industry, and his own faculties ? To those unfortunate individuals, doomed to the everlasting bondage of debt, what is it that we have free institutions of government ? What is it that we have public and popular assemblies ? Nay, to them, what is even this Constitution itself, in its actual operation, and as we now administer it,—what is its aspect to them but an aspect of stern, implacable severity ?—an aspect of refusal, denial, and frowning rebuke ?—nay, more than that, an aspect not only of austerity and rebuke even, but, as they must think it, of plain injustice also ; since it will not relieve them, nor suffer others to give them relief. What love can they feel toward the Constitution of their country, which has taken the power of striking off their bonds from their own paternal state governments, and yet, inexorable to all the cries of justice and of mercy, holds it, unexercised, in its own fast and unrelenting clench ? They find themselves bondsmen, because we will not execute the commands of the Constitution—bondsmen to debts they cannot pay, and which all know they cannot pay, and which take away the power of supporting themselves. Other slaves have masters, charged with the duty of support and protection ; but their masters neither clothe, nor feed, nor shelter—they only bind.

Sir, let us gratify the whole country, for once, with the joyous clang of chains,—joyous because heard falling from the limbs of men. The wisest among those whom I address can desire nothing more beneficial than this measure, or more universally desired ; and he who is youngest may not expect to live long enough to see a better opportunity of causing new pleasures and a happiness long untasted to spring up in the hearts of the poor and the humble. How many husbands and fathers are looking with hopes which they cannot suppress, and yet hardly dare to cherish, for the result of this debate ! How many wives and mothers will pass sleepless and feverish nights, until they know whether they and their families shall be raised from poverty, despondency, and despair, and restored again to the circles of industrious, independent, and happy life !"

That is as true in doctrine as in fact, and withal finely expressed. To those who may still harbour a sneaking preference for the old order, we commend the above sentiment of an eminent practising lawyer and practical statesman—who was so little given to illusions or

grandson Mumtazuddaula by a predeceased elder son Asgar Ali. In his *Journey through the Kingdom of Oude*, Sleeman, after citing the above instances, remarks:—"The same rule guides the succession among the Delhi sovereigns. This exclusion extends to all kinds of property, as well as to sovereignty." (Vol. II. p. 137).

In the mass of fugitive writings which invaded the correspondence columns of the metropolitan newspapers shortly after the demise of the last king of Oudh, we remember to have seen some claims put forward in favor of the surviving sons of the late *Wali Ahed* or Heir Apparent, Prince Mirza Muhammad Hamid Ali Bahadur. Upon the principle enunciated above, the children of Prince Hamid Ali have no legal claim whatever upon the property and dignity of their grandfather, His Majesty the late Wajid Ali Shah. Had the annexation never taken place, none of them could have claimed the throne as representing the deceased Heir-apparent. Of course, they would not have been allowed to starve in the native kingdom, and our Government may be quite justified in fixing or continuing a subsistence allowance for them, but it is quite clear that they have not by law the same claims for support as the legal heirs of His Majesty, nor can we find any reasons derived from personal qualifications, public services or the acts and declarations of His Majesty, which might justify a departure from the ordinary rules of the Mahomedan Law in their case.

Coming now to the question of the claims of His Majesty's surviving sons, a great deal of misapprehension seems to exist as to primogeniture rights in Islam. A Mahomedan Prince, the first-born of his Royal Father, has not the same inalienable and indefeasible right which appertain to the eldest son in a European or Hindu royal house. By the custom of the Turkish Empire, the eldest member of the entire Royal House has the preferential right of succession to the throne. By this rule, it is obvious that, in the generality of cases, the Sultan's brothers would have preference over his sons, who would, in the natural course of events, be younger in age than their uncles, and Sir Henry Maine, in his *Ancient Law*, makes a shrewd guess that the policy of the Sultans, in ordering the wholesale massacre of their younger brothers, "may have been perpetrated quite as much in the interest of their children as for the sake of making away with dangerous competitors for the throne." Judged by this rule, which is also in force in Egypt, no son has any definite rank in the succession, and, in the particular case of His Majesty Wajid Ali Shah, all the surviving sons would be excluded by uncles older in age living at Lucknow and even by His Majesty's nephew in Calcutta, who is older in age than all the surviving sons of His Majesty.

Looking closer home, we find Sir Henry Maine, in his *Early Law and Custom*, brings to notice the apparent want of any fixed rule of succession in Afghanistan, as evidenced by actual cases of succession as well as by claims thereto. Shere Ali, he points out, was not the eldest son of Amir Dost Muhammad Khan, nor was Yakub Khan the eldest son of Amir Shere Ali. Abdurrahman Khap, the present Amir, is no son of Shere Ali at all, but the son of an *elder*, yet not of the *eldest* brother. Ayub Khan, who had almost succeeded in establishing himself as Amir, is only a younger brother of Yakub Khan, the latter being still alive, and having a son Musa Khan living who had been recognised as the heir-apparent in the

reign of Yakub Khan. The conclusion at which the learned author arrives is this—that any descendant of Dost Mahommed Khan could aspire, by the process of natural selection, to the throne of the kingdom founded by him. Later on, he states that one of the devices for lessening the chances of civil war at each succession, would be for each sovereign in his own life-time to appoint a successor, which course, he thinks, on the whole to be prevalent in Afghanistan. In his *Ancient Law*, will be found the following passage which bears with still greater relevancy upon the question under consideration:—"Some of the Indian Mahomedan Sovereigns, without pretending to any distinct testamentary power, claim the right of nominating the son who is to succeed." (p 243).

Now, it is well-known that, after the demise of Prince Hamid Ali, His Majesty Wajid Ali Shah did not bestow the title of *Wali Ahed* on any other son. None of the present sons can, therefore, claim under any appointment from him. The duties which in Oriental Royal Houses fall to the share of the heir-apparent, were awarded by His Majesty to Prince Khush Bakht, who was not then the eldest surviving son. The appointment, if any, was, therefore, against the law of primogeniture. It is true that a certain dignity and status was voluntarily recognised and enforced by the Government for Prince Faridun Kadr Herzubbur Ali Bahadur, better known as the *Chota General*, but His Majesty always protested against the course, and the real story is well-known to the initiated.

It is, we believe, a settled policy with the Political Department of Government to scatter such ex-Royal families by degrees and gradually blend them with the general mass of the population. This process of attenuation and dispersion has been effected to a great extent with the Mysore Family, and indications are not wanting that in some respects the same policy is to be pursued as regards the Oudh Family.

On grounds, therefore, of justice and expediency alike, it is not desirable that any distinction should be made in status or allowances between the surviving sons of His Majesty. To do so, would be inflicting an injustice on the remaining sons, for no useful purpose whatsoever. On the contrary, the making of any such distinction would be offering a direct incentive to the future assumption of that sort of ex-Royal dignity which, we are sure, the Government are anxious to avoid, and to the mimicry of a puppet court for another life. Large as is the number of His Majesty's surviving sons, he never evinced any great regard for them, nor is there much to choose in the entire collection in point of intrinsic qualifications or public respect.

This is a delicate subject, one, above all, on which it is next to impossible to avoid sentiment. We ourselves, indeed, long cherished the dream of a Reis—a smaller Wajid Ali Shah—a pensioned royalty under a head growing small by degrees and beautifully less, but we have alas! been constrained to give it up. If Government still feel disposed to prolong a political of quasi-sovereign House of Oudh with princely dignity and privileges without princely power, it seems ungracious to oppose. Yet history cannot be recalled by force, and statesmanship must submit to facts. The times are not favorable to the creation of nominal royalty or the multiplication of anything like independent jurisdictions within the heart of the Empire—against the commonwealth. And the facts of the particular case do not impose on the Government of India such an experiment.

THE HOLKAR FAMILY DISPUTE.

WE are glad to notice that the Indore Durbar's differences with the Dowager Maharani, in regard to the *khaski* Estates, are in course of settlement. The interest on the deposit has been paid. The sum claimed was about a lac and three quarters. Deducting the pay of the Maharaja as Dewan or Intendant of the Estate and other dues, the claim has been reduced to a little over a lac. The actual sum paid down to the Dowagers is Rs. 10,6000. As a natural consequence of the family feud, however, they have been encouraged to set up all sorts of claims. The chief of these is a demand put forward, in the name of His Highness the Dowager Bhagirathi, for the round sum of a lac of Rupees, alleged to have been expended by her on the funeral of the late Maharaja Tukaji Rao Holkar. Some of the local papers, which have taken up with zeal the Ranis' grievance, are calling upon the Maharaja to pay his mother the sum without further delay, on pain, we suppose, of reporting His Highness to the Political Agency and the Foreign Office and holding him up to the scorn of the world—of hasty newspaper readers. It is somewhat strange, we are already told, that the State has not yet refunded the money to Her Highness. Why should it? What is there strange about it? Did the Dowager go to all that expense? If she did, she had no business to do so. Was her son—the heir to the throne—absent from the scene? Was there an interregnum? Were the Indore Government dead or asleep? Was there nobody to attend to the proper disposal of the remains of the late Ruler and to pay for the burning and other ceremonies, that the obvious duty and necessary cost thereof should have devolved upon the poor widow overwhelmed with grief as she must be at her bereavement? The late Maharaja was famous for his cumulative habits. Had there been a general *loot* going on while His Highness was on his death-bed, that there was no money forthcoming for decent incineration of his body? The present claim involves an insult to the present Reis as if he was present to succeed to the father's sovereignty and states and effects, but not ready to do the last honors to his father's lifeless person. What then could be the excuse for his bereaved mother to undertake functions which belong to him much more than to her—which indeed it was her privilege to have a son to perform? Under the circumstances, it was a piece of officiousness to step between the living and the dead Prince.

If the sum claimed is for any extra expenditure incurred by herself, in addition to that incurred by the present Holkar and his State, in the funeral rites and pageant and gifts, that was her private concern. He has no claim upon the State or her son to be repaid. If her son make her a gift on the account, he may do so without reproach, perhaps with grace. That is entirely a private matter. The State has nothing to do with it, nor the Holkar as Ruler. He might properly snub her—with filial familiarity—for her pains, above all, for making a public grievance of a personal question, not to say a sacred matter. The funeral rites are a religious obligation, incumbent not only on the son but also on the widow. If she performed and paid for them, she only did what was proper, but has no claim to a refund. Her performance indeed degenerates to an impropriety directly she makes a claim or even harbours an expectation or a wish to that effect.

RESPONSIBILITY OF STATEMENT.

IT is rare in the Indian Press to see any question of English literary history raised, and rarer still to see any original contribution in that department. It was, therefore, with no ordinary interest that we observed Mr. Arthur L. Jennings in the *Indian Daily News* lately set the Indian public right in regard to the authorship of the "Pauper's Drive." So late as the beginning of 1884, the piece with the oft-quoted refrain

Rattle his bones over the stones

He's only a pauper whom nobody owns!

was ascribed in England to the elder Hood. Men like Mr. Burnand who ought to have known made the mistake. At last in February of that year, the same error being repeated in the *Evening Standard*, usually so well informed in matters literary, Mr. H. Howard Hodges addressed the editor a letter correcting him and relating how the mistake originated. So far back as 1841, Mr. Thomas Noel—cousin to Lord Byron—published a little volume *Rhymes and Roundels*, in which occurs "The Pauper's Drive." Several years since, the vocalist Henry Russell, in the course of professional tour, sang this piece before many provincial audiences. He announced the poem as the composition of Tom Hood. When Mr. Russell came to Berkshire, where both Mr. Hodges and Mr. Noel resided, he was corrected by Mr. Hodges and also introduced to the poet. The same evening, in the presence of Mr. Hodges and Mr. Noel, Mr. Russell, at his "entertainment," publicly confessed his mistake and doubtless ever after ascribed the poem to its true author. All to no purpose, as the event proved. For, there has been no end to Mr. Hodges's trouble in his generous mission of protecting the modest worth of his literary friend. In 1868, he had to correct the editor of *Punch*, who, however, had the grace to send him a note thanking him. Such is the vitality of error, however, that sixteen years after, the *Standard* again attributes the "Pauper's Drive" to old Tom.

A special cause of the tenacity of life of the mistake, is to be found in the very amiability of Mr. Russell who started it. Had he contented himself with retracting his original statement, and, apologising for it, simply said that Mr. Thomas Noel, and not Thomas Hood, was the author of the "Pauper's Drive," he would have saved his character and done all the reparation in his power. Instead of it, he generously went beyond, and in the same breath paid a compliment to the poet by way of explaining his own mistake. He said "the poem was worthy of Hood." That was treading on dangerous ground. The sentence gives the original misstatement its true character of a simple error of fact and rescues it from the category of literary blunders, while it constitutes a tribute to Mr. Noel's genius. Nevertheless, it contained matter for the lease of life to the error and was the source of all the subsequent ado to Mr. Noel's friends. As delivered from the platform, in connection with other words and the surrounding circumstances, it was all right. But the sentence by itself is certainly equivocal. What wonder that, torn from its context, it should be taken to mean that the poem was no unworthy composition of the elder Hood's, the Poet of the "Poems of Wit and Humour," instead of that in the "Pauper's Ride" its author (Noel) had produced a piece equal in merit to the poetry of Hood!

The incident has a more than a merely literary bearing. It has a moral for all men. On literary men and newspaper writers in especial, it is a call to be more than ever careful in their statements. It enforces the lesson of many a trial for defamation. It shows how difficult—how nearly impracticable—it is to correct error—to remove a misimpression once caused. The most ample *amende honorable* may fail of its effect. Obviously, no correction is sure of reaching all who have imbibed the original mistake. To begin with, how to ascertain all those who were affected by the mistake? Then, if the correction even reaches their hands or the eye or ear, it may still fall short of reaching the minds of some of them. Without any fault of their own, the remainder are consigned to error, without hope of redemption. When the error is in respect of the laws of Nature or of important matters of science or learning, there

is less danger, because the questions are continually ventilated and brought to general notice: there is a machinery as it were for doing the needful in experts and students devoted to the task. Not so in matters of minor interest, and, above all, in statements affecting persons. In this sphere, full rectification is next to impossible. Here, in proportion to the easiness of wronging, is the difficulty of righting. You throw out a hint in a miscellaneous company, a hint that might compromise a reputation. You find you were wrong or misinformed. How are you to undo the mischief caused? You cannot bring the same company together. Supposing you ascertain the names of those who formed the party, and go about addressing them individually—a vain supposition—your false suggestion has by that spread beyond their circle and is altogether out of reach and beyond possibility of recall. How much greater, therefore, is the responsibility of written and published error! As a matter of fact, and of frequent observation, a correction does not reach all those for whom it is intended. A stray bit of printed paper picked up in the street or torn from an old trunk, may cause a false impression through life from the subsequent withdrawal of the statement not having met the particular eye. Such far-reaching instrument is print! Indeed, it is simply because it serves the most useful and the highest purpose of man and human society, that such a dangerous engine is permitted. But it behoves us to remember the grave risks to individuals and communities from its abuse. Indeed, respectable and honest drivers sometimes find their faculties paralysed from a sense of responsibility and the difficulty of deciding between different paths and conflicting interests.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR IN CHOTA NAGPUR.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, accompanied by his Private Secretary and the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division, reached Purulia in the afternoon of the 12th instant. Preparations had been made by the citizens, according to their humble means, to give His Honor a fitting reception. Triumphal arches had been erected with mottoes of welcome on the road by which Sir Stuart Bayley was expected to arrive, and it had been arranged that the principal officials, the municipal commissioners and the Maharaja of Pachete should meet the Governor on the precincts of the town. Owing, however, to a miscalculation and rapid locomotion, the party arrived a little earlier than expected, for which they could hardly be blamed as they had not fixed any particular time for their arrival, nor received notice that they were expected at any specific moment. In times when the ill-going proclivities of Viceroy and Local Governors have so violently exercised the public mind, and at a juncture when every Departmental Head is impressed with the physiological necessity of migrating bag and baggage to the higher altitudes of delightful sanatoria, in order to avoid the heat of the plains, it was a sight to see the Head of the Local Government driving all day long in an open carriage from Ranchi to Purulia, a distance of nearly 80 miles.

On the morning of the 13th, Sir Stuart, with the usual accompaniments, visited the jail, the municipal market, the charitable dispensary and the muster of the Ghatwali police. The cutcherry buildings have since long proved inadequate for present requirements, and projects for the extension of the said building have been under consideration and report for several years. The Lt.-Governor personally inspected the place and it is to be hoped that the public and their servants will soon have sufficient accommodation provided for the transaction of public business. Afterwards Sir Stuart drove to the Circuit House and there received the municipal address which was read by the Vice-Chairman, Babu Gunganund Mookerji. The Lt.-Governor in reply thanked the Commissioners for the kind reception they had arranged for him. Referring to the growing prosperity of the town, and the impetus likely to be given thereto by the opening of the Bengal Nagpur Railway, His Honor predicted a greater future for the town owing to the projected Benares-Cuttack Railway which he had every hopes of seeing begun before he laid down the reins of office. With reference to the difficulty of communications in the District, he intimated that he had already taken note of that want in this Division generally, and made a very liberal provision therefor in the Provincial Budget. The Governor was naturally

very guarded in his expression of views about the Coolie question. The question, he said, was under consideration of his Government in communication with the Chief Commissioner of Assam. He could not foretell what his final decision would be in the matter, and he could not at present promise any legislative action. Besides, the present Emigration Act was one of the India Council, and much would depend upon the views entertained upon that subject by the Government of India. For our own part, we can say that the Municipal Commissioners discharged a sacred duty in drawing attention to the grievances of their poorer native fellow-subjects in connection with inland emigration. The hardships are substantial and real, and the whole mischief arises from the binding nature of labor-contracts. If the laborers were free to give up their service whenever they were disinclined to work, in the same way as other domestic servants or agricultural laborers, most of the malpractices of the system as regards recruitment and the subsequent treatment of coolies, would die a natural death.

Adverting to the request of the Municipal Commissioners for the gift of the remnant corpus of the Famine Orphan Fund, His Honor said that the matter was entirely new to him and he would pass orders in the matter after consulting the Commissioner. We trust that in disposing of this Fund, the authorities will not lose sight of the claims of the normal orphans of the District for support. There is nothing to be said against the desirability of improving the *Sahib bandh* of Purulia, but, at the same time, the orphans of the whole district have in equity a stronger claim to the Fund in question than the inhabitants of the head-quarters. It is true that the Famine orphans, for whose special benefit the Fund was created, have now no longer any need for provision, but a small number of orphans are thrown upon the hands of the public authorities every year. The present provision for them seems to be either adoption into respectable households as domestic servants, or, failing that, being made over to the missionaries body and soul. The State thus is an active party to the proselytization of the helpless creatures whom it is bound to protect, and from the interest of this very Fund a small grant *per capita* is made for the maintenance of the said orphans by the missionaries. The procedure has no defence in the face of the declared policy of Queen and Parliament for strict religious neutrality, and if it be said that no visible means of providing for the orphans are available, they might easily be sent to the unsectarian Sir Charles Aitchison Orphanage and Boarding Institution, Benares, where orphans of all castes and creeds are freely welcome. The interest of the Famine Orphan Fund would be amply sufficient to provide for the maintenance and education of all the normal orphans of the District.

JAMALPORE.

SIR,—For the last three or four days violent easterly winds are blowing here, very unwholesome to men affected with rheumatism and to those who are of delicate constitution. We hear of diseases of various kinds, mostly of this season, to have broken out.

It is to be hoped that the present Chairman of the Jamalpore Municipality will interest himself in removing the wants from which the natives at large suffer. The roads of the native quarters, especially of Noyagong, are in the worst state possible. We prefer a *kutchra* road to a *pukka* one left unrepared for the last ten or eleven years. One unaccustomed to the latter is sure to stumble at every step at night.

Race antagonism is gradually taking root, it is to be feared, in the minds of the European staff of the station here. Natives, whatever their position, who have occasion to come in contact with the station master either as a passenger or as an applicant for a platform pass, as the rumour runs, are not allowed to come peacefully either by the station master himself or by his European satellites. They would try to insult these men by words or gestures. I hear that a representation against the present station master, headed by Boniad Mundal, Zemindar Commissioner of the local Municipality and Honorary Magistrate, has been made to the Traffic Manager, E. I. Railway, complaining of the maltreatment which the natives suffer at the hands of the station master and his staff. Mr. Baker was a whit less than the present station master—and it would not be hyperbole to say that the natives have been thrown from the frying pan to the fire. I hope that as Mr. Carter, Traffic Manager, is known to one and all among the natives here to be of pious character and a man of worth and loved by all for his impartiality, he will do proper justice to the case, and save the poor natives from insults.

March 14.

TRUTH.

THE SANTIPORE MUNICIPALITY.

At a very fully attended meeting of the Little Peddlingtonians a pitched battle was lost and won. It was a fight between an uncle and a nephew, a giant and a pigmy—a struggle between what were termed by the late Lord Palmerston as a clean party and a dirty party, a party zealous for improvements and whose motto is “to act that each to-morrow may find us farther than to-day”—and the party that has been trying, in season and out of season, to see important schemes, calculated to confer great benefit on a large community, postponed or marred or laid aside from ignorance, or apathy, or indifference. The adullamite uncle, who has, of late, as much as apostrophised Evil, “Be thou my good! was for forming ‘the Cabal,’ while his opponents, gathering themselves under the leadership of three of the ablest spirits in the clean party, viz., “the uncrowned king” (Babu Muthur M. Mukerjee), “the school boy” (Babu Sarat Chunder Roy) and “the school master” (Babu R. D. Khan, B. L., Headmaster, local E. school) were for forming “All-the-talents administration.” Babu Hari Das Roy and his ‘tail’ made a supreme effort to send the obnoxious nephew and the clean party about their business. They invoked Heaven and Earth—Hell too shall I say?—incited the people and appealed to the Government—they stormed—they raved—they threatened—to gain their end. They cared not for rights if only he—the Evil one—I mean Babu Sarat Chandra—was bundled out of the way. All to no purpose. All Hate’s Labor Lost. How are the mighty—I had almost said naughty—fallen in the midst of the battle! How keen was the contest and how persistent the struggle will be evident from the fact that at the meeting of the corporation for the election of the Vice, there was a ‘tie’ in the votes, the question being settled by the Chairman giving his casting vote not to the uncle but to the nephew Sarat Chandra, “by way of reward for his valuable services.” Thus the nephew twice killed the uncle for is it not a double death, to drown in ken of shore? Thus the gentle stream that flows past our town has narrowly escaped being set on fire! Puffed up with pride at his recent success at the poll—success, which, they say, has told upon his brains—Babu Hari Das attempted the impossible—stood as a candidate for the Vice-chair.

Ambition hath one heel nail’d in hell

Though she stretches her fingers to touch the heavens.

And if the uncle has met with such shabby treatment at the hands of the nephew and his party has been dishd, as it deserved to be, he has his own over-towering ambition to thank for it. The audacity of impertinence of the unnatural nephew cannot, of course, be too strongly condemned. It is an outrage even to think of breaking a lance with an uncle; to beard him in a public meeting is an atrocious crime; to put him to death is almost a parricide; but to crucify him (for it is nothing less than crucifixion, seeing that Sarat Babu carried out his diabolical plot in concert with a few sturdy citizens whom Babu Hari Das looks down upon as tagrag and bobtail) what shall I call it! The following points in connection with the election of the Vice-Chairman deserve prominent mention:—1. That the Mahomedans to whose want of support is to be attributed Babu Sarat Chandra’s defeat at the hustings have made a complete *amende honorable* by calling upon their representatives to vote him to the vicechair. 2. That even so paltry a thing as the vicechairship could make the zemindars fall out. 3. That the Plebeians have got the better of the Particians. 4. That truth is mighty and it prevails.

Now a word or two to the parochial Paul Prys who like the nodes of the moon, whose only business is to darken the luminaries, have been blackening the character of Baboo Sarat Chandra both here and in the Press. During the invasion of Lanka by the illustrious Rama, his mighty adversary Ravana is said to have observed, that he could stand the invectives and opposition of gods and men, but not the grins and grimaces of the tailed hordes of Kishkinda. Some such feeling may well fill the mind of Mr. Roy at the foul attack of his unscrupulous traducers who like the man who ostracised Aristides cannot bear to hear a good and worthy man universally praised. But possessing as Baboo Sarat Chandra does a rare fund of patience and a peculiar dogged indifference, and knowing as he does that censure is the tax a man pays to the public for being eminent and that the villain’s censure is extorted praise, he laughs off the insinuations of his slanderers, insinuations which are as false as they are mean and contemptible. To say that he was nowhere at the Poll because he was unpopular is to tell a lie pure and simple. The Mahomedans voted for his rival candidate not that they love Sarat Baboo less but that they love their co-religionists more. If Sarat Baboo has indeed got into hot water with his constituents, how is it then that the very Mahomedans have now installed him in the Vice-Chair? But is the success at the poll a crucial test of a man’s popularity? If the *vox populi* is the *vox dei* is it not sometime the *vox diaboli*? Granting for the sake of argument that Mr. Roy is somewhat unpopular, what does it signify? Does not the Bible say that if all men praise thee, thou art truly unfortunate? To say that an administrator is to a certain extent unpopular with a portion of those over whom he exercises authority, what is it but to say, that he does not flatter the prejudices of the people, that he regards

his own conscience as his sole tribunal, that he cares no more for that phantom “opinion” than he fears meeting a ghost if he cross the churchyard at dark, that he has convictions of his own which he dares reduce to practice in spite of the clamours of the multitude, that he is not a timeserver and trimmer, and that he sets greater store by the welfare of the people than the interests of classes and factions?

One word about Babu Muthur Muhun Mukerjee who has done more for Santipur than all the Vice-Chairmen put together and who feels for his native town as no other man does, and I am done. By the sacrifice of his repose, his pleasures to ours, and, above all, by his preference in all cases of our interests to his own—the “uncrowned king” occupies no humble niche in the temple of every people’s heart. The Vice-Chairmanship was indeed over due to him. Grateful Santipur did thrust upon him the highest honor in its gift, but Muthur Muhun, with a magnanimity that reminds me of Cincinnatus who as soon as he had conquered the enemy threw up the Dictatorship and resumed his agricultural pursuits, has chosen to be the Vice-Chairman-maker rather than himself be the Vice-Chairman and has declined the honor in favor of his nephew Sarat Chandra.

Santipur.

PARTING KICK TO THE VILLAGE CURS.

LORD DUFFERIN’S OPPONENTS.

SIR,—Whatever they would say to the contrary, the meeting of Thursday last at the Town Hall, in honor of Lord Dufferin, was a perfect success, and clearly illustrated the truth of what I wrote in my previous note, viz., that the majority of the Natives, and specially the reasonable and intelligent among them, had no sympathy whatever with those opposed to doing His Excellency honor. That this they had not, was sufficiently shown by their presence there. As I read in the papers, the number of Natives was far greater than Europeans, the *bete noir* of the *Indian Mirror* (?) by whom, as he would say, the meeting was got up! Thus I was perfectly right in saying that the Natives generally had no sympathy with the opposition-party. I will have to show now that the reasonable and intelligent portion of them, was also of the same mind. To do this, I will have to invite attention to the list of those that were present there, in which, among others, the following names will be seen:—Sir Jotindro Mohun Tagore, K.C.S.I., Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee, C.S.I., Raja Durga Charan Law, C.I.E., Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, Rai Kunja Lall Banerjee, Rai Joyprokas Lall, Rai Jogodanundo Mookerjee, Rai Kanaye Lall Dey, and others. Now, besides being a big and influential Zemindar, Sir Jotindro Mohun Tagore was for several years, a Law member of the Supreme Legislative Council, whence emanate the Rules and Regulations by which India is governed. Raja Peary Mohun is also a big Zemindar, and a member of the Viceroy’s Legislative Council. Raja Durga Churn Law is also a Zemindar, and a merchant too, and was a member of the Governor-General’s Council. Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee was for some time past minister of the late Nawab Faridoon Jah Bahadoor, the last of the Nawabs of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, and was also minister to the Tipperah State. He is indeed one of the few sound politicians, at whose feet many of our so-called enlightened patriots may well learn what politics is. He is also a gifted writer, and the supreme elegance and beauty with which he uses the English language, is a wonder to many English gentlemen, having scholarly tastes and attainments. In fact, he is a genius of whom the literary world may be well proud. Rai Kunja Lall Banerjee was one of the ablest Judges that ever sat on the bench of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. Rai Joyprokash Lall is a colleague of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Rai Jogodanundo Mookerjee is a distinguished Government pleader. And Rai Kanaye Lall Dey is an eminent physician. Can any one venture to question the reason and intelligence of these men, without simply making a fool of himself? Need I adduce further evidence to substantiate my statement that the reasonable and intelligent Natives had no sympathy with the opposition?

But the meeting proved more than what I wrote. It proved also that Their Highnesses and Nawabs had no sympathy with the opposition, there being present several of them there, many of whom took its active part, thus establishing clearly that, except a disappointed and narrow-minded few, the whole Indians, both Reis and Rayyet, the intelligent and the ignorant, have thorough confidence in, and heartily approve of, the policy of His Excellency Lord Dufferin’s administration.

In connection with this, I can’t too strongly censure the unworthy and unbecoming conduct of some of the objectors to the Town Hall meeting. I have already referred to the meanness of Surendra Nath Banerjee, their ringleader, for his “house to house canvassing.” I now understand that failing in their enthusiasm to make counter-demonstration, these veteran demagogues sent a contingent of their puny myrmidons to thwart the objects of the meeting. But the gallant soldiers of the local constabulary were too strong for them. Receiving their just due, they had to come back beating their breast and tearing their hair in the way.

To the Editor.

KISSORY NATHA MITRA.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

The following Subscriptions have been received :—

	Rs.
H. H. the Nawab Bahadur of Murshe- dabad	1,000
H. H. Nawab Kalsoom-un Nissa, Be- gum Sahabeh, wife of the Nawab Ba- hadur	500
H. H. the Maharajah of Doomraon ...	1,000
H. H. the Maharajah of Bettiah ...	5,000
H. H. the Maharajah of Vizianagram ...	2,500
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Maharajah Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore	1,000
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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old proverbs, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the quotations at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "flesh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "We serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1888.

} No. 318

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ANOTHER feather to the cap of Baboodom! "For his original contributions to Mathematics," Baboo Ashutosh Mookerjee, already M.A., F.R.A.S., and F.R.S.E., has been accepted a Foreign Member of the Société Mathématique de France.

MR. GEORGE IRVING having gone home, the vacant seat in the local legislative council has been filled by Mr. H. Pratt of Messrs. Osler & Co. In his new sphere we hope the Hon'ble Mr. Pratt will develop a tenderness for the people of this country.

SIR DONALD MACKENZIE WALLACE was taken ill with choleric symptoms in the Viceregal Special, and he was taken to the civil Hospital at Allahabad. We are glad he has recovered and joined the Viceregal suite.

IT is said that an attempt was lately made by Fenian pirates to capture the Prince of Wales, while but in a pinnace off the coast of San Remo. The timely appearance of a gunboat on the scene saved our future King from kidnapping. Can all this be true? Or, is it of a piece with the myths dear to the ignorant classes of Europe, such as that an old school-master had been long personating the Emperor William?

NEBRASKA has the distinction of possessing a lady of the long robe, who, not content with the honours of professional advocacy, has achieved the additional and important distinction of a law-maker. She is the author of the law in Nebraska State giving mothers joint guardianship with fathers over children. That law obtains only in four of the States—Kansas, Iowa, New Jersey, and Nebraska. She also drafted the Bill which became law in the Nebraska Chamber, providing an Industrial Home for Fallen Women. It may be readily inferred that Mrs. Ada M. Bittenhender (for such is her name) is of an actively philanthropic turn. Just now, she is on a visit to Washington in the cause of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

IT is said that quinine is an antidote to the habit of opium eating or smoking. Mr. J. Fergusson of the *Ceylon Observer* presses the point for public notice. Mr. A. R. Colquhoun had previously remarked that the Chinese considered quinine a cure for opium poison, and that they preferred this to any other known antidote.

HIS friends and admirers gave, on the 17th March, an evening party to Moroba Kesrinath, Personal Assistant to the Accountant-General, Bombay. And why? Because he has received the title of Rao Bahadur as a personal distinction. That seems a queer *Indian Mirrorish* reason, akin to the famous effort of ratiocination by which our contemporary arrived at the conclusion that Lord Dufferin was the prime cause of Sir Syud Ahmed Khan's Lucknow speech. But surely the practical Bombay mind might be expected to be above such refinements of irrationality. It is no reason at all that because the Sovereign has given a title, the friends of the recipient should follow up with an entertainment to him. The process ought to be the other way. The

friends of the favoured man might more naturally expect to be entertained by him than he expect to be feasted by them. For instance, his bottle-holders may well feel disappointed at not receiving a treat from him whenever Sir *Mirror* can be persuaded, by any Governor-General, to accept the knighthood which he is said to have refused at the soiled hands of Lord Dufferin, who sent a deputation to the *Mirror* office to press the offer. They order the matter differently in the Western Presidency.

A CURIOUS litigation had been agitating native society in Madura in the first weeks of March. There had been a difference, ending in the usual war of words, between two members of the Naidu clan. One of them, a hero of the second grade Pleader bar, Lutchmi Naidu by name, had the pluck to kick the other, who, besides being a Naidu, is quite a magnate of Madura, being a Municipal Councillor and a member of the Committee of the great religious endowments for which Madura is famous. In the hurry and excitement of conflict, the limb of the law did not even free his attacking foot from its leather surrounding or appendage. Striking with live nether extremities might be fair warfare, but touching a good Hindu sharing in the affairs of town conservancy and temple management, with dead leather of even a sacred bull, was simply intolerable. So our great Meenatchi Naidu lodged a complaint. Not to be outdone, Lutchmi Naidu too filed a cross-complaint. But at the hearing, neither Naidu appears, and "society" is disappointed of many piquant disclosures.

THE *Ceylon Patriot*, the oldest and sole secular English newspaper in Jaffna, established in 1862 by Mr. C. W. Catheravalu Pillai, the present Police Magistrate of Kaits, has, we see, been leased out by the proprietor Mr. S. Johnpulle, to Mr. James H. Martin of Jaffna. We notice an improvement in the quality of the paper served.

PROFESSOR FLOWER at the Anthropological Institute described two skeletons of full grown Akkas, male and female, lately obtained from the Monbuthe country, Central Africa, by Emin Pasha, neither of them exceeded 1,219 metres or 4 feet, while a living female of whom the Pasha has sent careful measurements, is only 1,164 metres or 3 ft. 10 in. The average of the race may not be so low as that, yet there seems little ground for doubting that the Akkas are the smallest people known.

THE self-elected martyrs in the Irish cause did not find the prison by any means a pleasant place. But they elected for hardships they might have avoided. Such, at least, is the case of Mr. William O'Brien, M. P., lately discharged from Tullamore. The Irish Secretary Mr. Balfour, having insinuated that Mr. O'Brien was shamming weak health in order to escape the goal discipline, the latter refused to partake of any indulgences in the matter of diet, even though suggested by the prison doctor.

In India, our political martyrs wax fat in prison, and come out to gather Rint with both hands. One of them, in this way, raised the wind charmingly under the name of a public Fund. But the public have not heard much of its destination or uses. It was a fine private Fun. The public were only treated to a Farce.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

RAJA G. N. GUJPUTTEE ROW, who had been five months at Madras for the benefit of his Ranee's health, has left for his native district of Vizigapatam. During his stay at Madras, he is said to have spent Rs. 10,000 in charity to the poor and other charitable purposes. The Ranee also has subscribed an equal sum for the Victoria Hospital for Caste and Gosha women.

THE Hon'ble Kazi Shahabuddin, late of Baroda, has paid to the Bombay Government the princely sum of Rs. 60,000, in aid of Mahomedan education. The sum has been split into portions and distributed to the several districts of the Presidency, and Committees appointed to consider the best means for their disposal.

DURING last month, forty seven thousand five hundred and twenty three persons visited the Indian Museum. There were natives—34,926 males and 11,844 females and Europeans—624 males and 129 females, the daily average for the 21 days the Museum was open, being 2,263.

THE Pearl Fishery in Mannar is in full swing. It will probably extend to the middle of this month. The amount realised by sale of oysters up to the 12th March, was Rs. 3,87,018. At the close of the operations, the Government will probably make six lacs. A writer from Mannar in the *Ceylon Patriot* brings out in this connection prominently the name of Mr. Twynam, "the Nestor of the Civil Service." It would seem that the news had gone abroad that the oysters had disappeared. That meant ruin to many and starvation to more. Everybody was thrown into despondency. Mr. Twynam alone maintained his head and spirits. He went to work with his accustomed zeal, knowledge and ability, summoning the whole fishing staff and went in search of the dwellers in the deep, and succeeded in getting at them and dissipating the scare. Well may the writer call for the thanks of the public and reward from Government for Mr. Twynam.

ON the last day of last year, the Zemindar of Shivaganga filed a suit for some five lacs against a famous Nattu Kottei Chetty named Rama Sami. From the time of the present Zemindar's father, Ramasami had been appointed to collect all outstandings on the estate and employ the collections to uses mentioned in his power. The present Zemindar, who had continued the power, now complains that the Agent had exceeded his powers and collected sums which he had no right to collect and misappropriated them. The Chetty, in his written statement, denies all this. The preliminary issues were settled in the middle of last month.

THE Jamnagar State offers a reward of Rs. 10,000 for the apprehension of the outlaw Charun Raide.

THE Primrose League counts about 700,000 active members, one half being female workers.

WE observe with pain that the illustrious Nair, Mr. Kunjen Menon, Sub-Judge of Tellicherry, who lately got the title of Rai Bahadur for his judicial services in Malabar and in Travancore, where he for sometime acted as a Judge of the High Court, lies under a charge of corruption. A charge of bribery is being prosecuted against him by Mr. Nelson, barrister, late of the Civil Service, on the part of, apparently, respectable accusers.

THERE has been another change in the French Ministry. The Radicals in the Chambers surprised the Premier by a motion for revision of the Charter. The House voted urgency—against the opposition of M. Tirard. He consequently resigned. With the co-operation of M. M. Freycinet and Goblet, M. Floquet formed the Cabinet with the following cast:—

Mr. Floquet ... President of the Council and Minister of the Interior.
M. Goblet ... Minister for Foreign Affairs.
M. de Freycinet ... Minister for War.
M. Peytral ... Minister for Finance.
M. Legrand ... Minister for Commerce.

M. Meline, a Moderate Republican, has since been elected to succeed M. Floquet as President of the Chamber. M. Clemenceau, the leader of the Advanced Left, secured an equal number of votes. The republican steps in by right of seniority.

A BILL for connecting Paris with the sea is in circulation, signed by 47 Deputies. It contemplates a canal one and a half times the breadth of the Suez Canal, the depth ranging from 6'20 metres. The cost is estimated at 118,000,000*f*.

THE Panama Canal shareholders, about a thousand of them, recently met in Paris. M. Ferdinand de Lesseps read a report which took forty minutes to go through. It was unanimously adopted. Only one shareholder asked for a hearing. There was also a resolution for a loan of 340,000,000*f*. This, coupled with previous powers for raising 260,000,000*f*, will make a total of 600,000,000*f*, plus a sum not exceeding 120,000,000*f* for the purchase of French Rentes to guarantee repayment and premiums. The sum necessary for completing the Canal is estimated at 654,000,000*f*—namely, 254,000,000*f* for excavation, 325,000,000*f* for locks and masonry, 15,000,000*f* for reservoirs supplying the upper reaches of the Canal, 50,000,000*f* for materials, and 210,000,000*f* for general expenses and interest on shares and bonds. The loan of 600,000*f* and the balance in hand of 110,000,000*f* will meet this expenditure and leave a margin of 56,000,000*f*.

THE Madras newsletter of the *Mahratta* refers to the 151st Anniversary of the birth of Tom Paine having been celebrated in America on the 29th January. The writer says, "very few in India know who Thomas Paine was."

MR. Henry Curwen, the editor of the *Times of India*, was to go home on the 1st of this month for a few months. In his hands the leading journal of Bombay had, it is to be feared, distinctly deteriorated in sympathy for the children of the soil. But since the burial of the Ilbert Bill controversy, the paper had picked up to some extent. For the rest, the paper has maintained its reputation for ability, information, and honour.

IN the Cornwallis-street tragedy, the death of Khetter Mohun Mitter, the Coroner's Jury unanimously came to the conclusion that the deceased died from the effects of a gun-shot wound, the shot being fired by his eldest son Nilmadhub. The revolver found was traced to the son who had purchased it four or five days previously from Walter, Locke & Co. There is, besides, his own confession of guilt. Nilmadhub has been put on his trial before the Northern Division Magistrate. Mr. Hume prosecutes and Mr. Garth and Mr. Cranenburgh watch on behalf of the defence.

THE Bengal Legislative Council met last Wednesday. The Calcutta Municipal Bill made very little progress, and the Hon'ble Mr. Macaulay obtained leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Mofussil Municipalities law, Act III of 1884. The object is to exclude State lands and buildings from municipal jurisdiction and inspection. The immediate occasion was the refusal of the Superintendent of the Gunpowder Factory, Ichapore, to allow the Municipal Commissioners to enter and inspect the Factory which they are empowered by the present law to do. The municipality insisting on their right, Government stepped in and prevented them. The Council meet again this day when the Calcutta Bill will be taken up.

AN English Magistrate at Lahore, during a trial held by him, unceremoniously kicked a native tradesman while he was being examined on oath. The Magistrate is said to be a young man not devoid of good points. The more's the pity!

A SCARCELY less reprehensible habit of our officials is that of Magistrates having friendly correspondence with parties charged with offences before them. Mr. Assistant Superintendent Fullerton of the Nowgong Police in Assam is a particularly epistolary officer. This trait of his came out in the case of assault brought sometime ago against him by a peon. It appears again in the case of a schoolboy lately instituted against him. On receiving his summons, the Assistant god of the Police wrote to the offending—because summoning—Magistrate:—

"Deputy Commissioner,
Nowgong.

As to-day I have received a summons to attend your Court in a cause, said to be assault at a fire, I beg to ask, if I am not allowed to use force to compel persons standing by, to help in putting out a fire.

Please answer this sharp as I wish it to go with your reply to the Inspector-General of Police who will ask the Chief Commissioner to-day.

Nowgong,
17th February 1888.

(Sd.) F. A. Fullerton."

To that peremptory demand the poor Magistrate, as in duty bound to lords of the all-powerful Constabulary, meekly bowed and attempted the following explanation :

"The facts as set forth in the petition are not that you used force to persons to make them help in putting out a fire. You are at liberty to see petition and complainant's statement.

(Sd.) G. E. McLeod."

My Lord of the District Superintendence was not to be so easily pacified. He was, indeed, thrown into a rage by the evidence of contumacy of the Civil Service. He wrote back sharp :—

"Please answer my question. Had you made any enquiry things might be different.

(Sd.) F. A. Fullerton.
17th February 1888."

That proved the last straw for the camel of a meek magistracy. Mr. McLeod could only say—

"I decline further correspondence. File with case.

(Sd.) G. E. McLeod."

So much for our boasted administration !

THE last instalment of Mr. Kinglake's History of the Crimean War is rich in original information as the previous volumes. It contains incidents never before made public, such as the one told in the following extract from a weekly review :—

"Of all the incidents, certainly the one which will most attract all readers is the wonderful story of Captain Oldershaw's defence of the 'No. VII. Battery,' in which, of the forty-seven men actually retained in the fight, forty-four were killed or wounded. In addition, however, to the three thus left, eighteen others had been sent out of the battery, during the course of the fight, with wounded men. A rumour that Captain Oldershaw was to be employed the following night in the same battery having reached these twenty men, they sent by the corporal on duty a message to Captain Oldershaw,—"The men who fought with you yesterday, Sir, wish to fight again with you.' Higher honour certainly could scarcely have been paid to a soldier ; but, strangely enough, thanks chiefly to the absolute reticence and modesty of Captain Oldershaw, the facts were never known to Lord Raglan, to the army at large, or to the public at home."

Here was a hero indeed, content to do his duty in obscurity.

THE Hindu students of the Grant Medical College gave themselves a dinner at Parel, with the usual accompaniments of music and song. What the nature of the edibles was, how they were served, and whether all the castes sat promiscuously together, we are not told. It is said Drs. Kunte, K. R. Kirtikar, Deshmookh and other well-known gentlemen, more or less connected with the College, were invited, but not whether they attended and partook of the dinner. From the cautious terms in which the subject is referred to in the *Native Opinion*, we suspect there was a hitch somewhere. Our contemporary would encourage such movements "within certain limits" and warns the students against "running fast."

WE are obliged to the Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal, for the following result of the examination for admission into the Subordinate Executive Service, held at the Senate House of the Calcutta University in February 1888. The full marks were 2100.

1	Baboo Surenda Nath Mozoomdar, B.A. ...	1337
2	" Krishna Doyal Pramanick, M.A. ...	1304
3	" Prosunno Kumar Karfarina, B.L. ...	1263
4	" Goti Krishna Neogi, M.A., B.L. ...	1247
5	" Hari Pada Bhattacharjee, B.A. ...	1222
6	" Soshi Bhusun Bose, M.A. ...	1200

ERRATUM :—No. 317, page 150, column 2, line 13 from bottom, for growing read becoming.

Holloway's Ointment.—Sores, Wounds, Ulcerations, and other diseases affecting the skin, are capable of speedy amendment by this cooling and healing ointment, which has called forth the loudest praise from persons who had suffered for years from bad legs, bad breasts, piles, abscesses, and chronic ulcers, after every hope of cure had long passed away. None but those who have experienced the soothing effect of this Ointment can form an idea of the comfort it bestows by restraining inflammation and allaying pain. Whenever Holloway's Ointment has been once used it has established its own worth, and has again been eagerly sought for as the easiest and safest remedy for all such complaints. In neuralgia, rheumatism and gout, the same application, properly used, gives wonderful relief.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE domestic relations and family alliances of princes still play an important part in European politics. At this very moment, the whole Continent is being agitated over a proposed union, between Prince Alexander of Battenberg and Princess Victoria, the Emperor of Germany's second daughter and grand-daughter of our Empress Victoria. The match seems to have been quietly effected between the Courts, behind the Cabinets. This was hardly fair to the statesmen bowed down with anxieties for the maintenance of the dignity, prosperity, liberty, and perhaps the very existence of the States, specially at a time when the peace of the world is threatened. No wonder, Prince Bismarck resents this cool affront with which his new master greets him, after all the wordy tribute to his worth and his services. Apart from the point of personal honour, he may well be seriously staggered at the responsibility which a domestic alliance with the Czar's sworn foe and ex-ruler of Bulgaria, brings with it for Germany. That match, unaccompanied by explanations and guarantees, is a distinct defiance of Russia, which the old Chancellor, now that the great Emperor is gone, with whom he achieved not Prussian hegemony only but Prussian pre-eminence among the nations and throughout the world and built up the fabric of Empire, must more than ever feel himself under the necessity of humouring. Accordingly, he has set his face against it. He will resign, if it is attempted. And he has doubtless the whole people at his back. But Bismarck by himself is a Power. Just now, he is simply indispensable. It is useless speculating farther in the matter. The match has received its quietus. We are only sorry that our good Queen-Empress should have lent herself to what looks very like a court intrigue against the interests of peoples. We believe Her Majesty is not going, after all, to Charlottenburg, as announced, to celebrate the betrothal of her dear grand-daughter. Though the project is abandoned, Russia is sure to remember it against England.

A WHOLESALE fire has reduced to ashes the trading town of Colgong, in the Bhagalpur district. It stands on the right or south bank of the Ganges. Its population numbered 4,419 Hindus and 1,270 Mahomedans. The fire commenced in the morning of Wednesday at 9 and continued unchecked till two in the afternoon, when the work of destruction was complete. It was no work of arson, but a pure accident. Some oil was being put into a cooking utensil and this set the wood work of the house ablaze, and the contagion spread, aided by the strong wind from the west. There is no fire-brigade in the town and no wells, though the river flows by it. Attempts, if any, to put down the fire were unavailing, it spread so gallopingly. It must have been a grand pyrotechnic exhibition for several hours, but the people had scarcely the heart to note the æsthetic effect. Several lives are reported to have been lost, and very little of property has been saved. Mr. Antonine's Factory escaped the general conflagration, affording shelter to the destitute men, women and children.

WE confess we were alarmed when we heard that the Viceroy, with his Private Secretary and one of his Aides-de-camp, had been inspecting the backslums of our metropolis and that the Executive of the town corporation had led the party to some of the filthiest spots in town, particularly as we were not told of any precautions having been taken, probably the better to understand the harmful character of the sights. Considering that they were utterly unused to such a tainted atmosphere, it was a real and grave risk that the Viceroy and his companions incurred by his laudable curiosity to acquaint himself with the state of the metropolis. It is a relief to know that nothing wrong has occurred. It is lucky not only for the distinguished experimenters, but also for the town and corporation. Any attack of illness, from whatever cause, was sure to have been attributed to that morning's drive through the Black Town. And if the city stood a good chance of revolution on the illness of Lady Baring—wife of our former Finance Minister—a real shake to the Viceroy's constitution would surely have swept away the municipal government of Calcutta, and consigned the poor inhabitants to we know not what pains and penalties. Now they—Viceroy and all—are so far out of the reach of our nastiness that even the *Indian Mirror* cannot vomit on them the contents of its heart and brain, we may well rejoice at our escape.

If Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace has suffered on the way to Allahabad, that is none of our business, sorry though we are on his account. There

are causes enough of disease all the world over. He had been working like a mad man, during the last few weeks, before the departure, and any little circumstance acting on such an overstrained system might be sufficient to produce grave consequences to the health. Such an impulse may have been communicated by the atmosphere of part of the country through which he passed.

CHOLERA is raging in epidemic form in Raneegunge. The coolies in Burn & Co.'s Pottery Works are dying by hundreds. The surrounding atmosphere is surcharged with the poison. It is not safe to run by the railway through the district. A private letter reports that a European passenger from Calcutta to Allahabad was taken ill with diarrhoea at Raneegunge. A European child was similarly attacked while coming down. Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace might have in the same way imbibed the poison at Raneegunge.

It is in contemplation to withdraw the British garrison from Neemuch, on the ground of its unhealthiness. The inhabitants are naturally in alarm. Accordingly, they have promptly appealed to the Viceroy against such a calamity being fastened on them, without any fault on their part. We hope the memorial will reach His Excellency, and not be disposed of by a smart Under-Secretary.

We truly sympathise with the Neemuchites. It is a question of ruin and no ruin—nay, even of life and death to them. It means the loss of employment—the loss of every kind of profession and of trade—the loss of property. It means the total wreck of the large amount sunk in lands and houses. The poor pensioner or poorer widow, who has settled there and scraped every possible means, even to borrowing, in order to purchase a shop site or a bungalow that might support self and family, is done for. And then the withdrawal of the troops will simply hand the place over to anarchy and lawlessness. The inhabitants could scarcely remain if they wished, after the removal of the cantonment. In fine, the withdrawal means the dispersion of the city, neck and crop.

Of course, if Neemuch is permanently and direly unhealthy, we can sympathise with Government. It is a grave responsibility to consign British soldiers to avoidable disease and death. But are matters so very bad? No case has been made out for abandoning the place, while all the political reasons for a garrison in the particular neighbourhood exist with full force.

AS some set off against the numerous Christian adventurers who flock to Hyderabad, to suck its heart's blood, a remarkable Mahomedan visitor is now staying there. Kazi Abdul Kader, who, as guest of the Minister, has been assigned for his accommodation one of the detached bungalows at Bushir Bagh, had been Minister of War and Prime Minister of Afghanistan in the reign of Amir Shere Ali Khan. And a right worthy Vizier of the Period he was, accomplished alike in Eastern and Western lore. For, the local *Record* not only testifies to his fluency in English but credits him with an acquaintance with French, German, and Russian. He of course knows his native Poshto and Persian, to which he adds a knowledge of Oordoo as well as of some of the Turk dialects. There is no Afghan language other than Poshto.

"His Highness accorded the distinguished visitor a very cordial reception and held a most interesting conversation with the *Savant* for several hours together, and appears to have been favorably impressed by the bearing and conduct of the old gentleman. The Kazi Sahib himself was very much astonished at the natural intelligence and the avidity with which His Highness sought information about the countries situate beyond the northern limits of India, and the interview was altogether a most pleasant and reciprocally edifying one."

That shows a great advance in education and understanding at the Nizamut. The late ruler could not have made such intelligent use of the Kazi. His Highness, Afzal-ad-Dowla regarded Delhi as one of the ends of the earth, more distant than Constantinople. And no wonder, considering that "all his adventures were by the fire-side and all his migrations from the blue bed to the brown"—being confined, for the most part, to driving a hansom within the palace grounds.

A RATHER bitter literary feud is going on in the Press of Western India between Hindus and Parsees, respecting innovations in their common Gujrati language, the one complaining of Parsee corruptions, by introducing unnecessary English terms, and the other inveighing against Hindu pedantry in introducing Sanskrit vocables to the confusion of

the people. Both complaints, we believe, are well-founded, and the controversy would be beneficial if it ended in teaching both classes of innovators moderation. The same things might be said of almost all our progressive Indian vernaculars.

THE North-Western Railway has made a concession to Tommy Atkins. Soldiers on furlough can travel on the line in second class on payment of third class fare. We trust friend Tom will, on his part, feel the responsibility entailed on him by this handsome consideration. More than ever, he should, henceforth, at all times, behave like a sober British soldier who reserves his courage for the field and is distinguished for his humanity and his regard for his brethren and the civil population in general, and not like a rowdy Cossack reeking with rakkee—a nuisance wherever he goes.

WE are glad to observe any symptoms of healthy activity in our genuine Mofussil associations. All the more so since the metropolis has failed to lead. The British Indian Association, which formerly did such good work, has been paralysed by death, disease, or age of its working members. Our chief hope now lies in such bodies as those of Patna and Dacca.

In November last, the East Bengal Landholders' Association, Dacca, memorialized Government to exempt bastu lands, jalkar, bankar, and others from the income tax, in that these already bear the Road and Public Works cess. They argued that it could not be the intention of the Act or the Government to tax them twice. They accordingly prayed for a remedy either by rules under the Act or the amendment of the law.

The Government have now replied, thus:—

"In reply, I am desired to say that the Hon'ble the Advocate-General has expressed an opinion that the rulings of the late Commissioner of Income-tax correctly express the law on the subject. The general question raised by the Association, regarding the exemption from assessment to income-tax of income which is already liable to Road and Public Works cess, has been referred by His Honour to the Government of India. As regards the assessment on jalkars, I am to say that the Board of Revenue, in their circular order No. 5 of January 1884, have expressly directed district officers to abstain from any further collections of Road Cess and Public Works Cess in respect of jalkars, that is, of assessments made on rights of fishery as distinguished from proprietary right in the land which is covered by water. The Board have been requested to satisfy themselves that these orders are being carried out."

THE aristocracy of Great Britain has at last found its buttress. That chronicler of Society the *St. Stephen's Review* reports the interesting fact that a veritable Duchess—she of Hamilton—has just opened a shop in Ipswich for sale of her dairy produce. The same unexceptional authority tells us that it is crowded. We suppose the mob of gentlemen and snobs go more to see the fun than to buy, unless they buy for fun. It must be interesting to see a real peeress dealing. One is reminded of Sterne contemplating the operation of an ass eating macaroni. Seriously speaking, a real lady, whether a peeress or not, must sell as shop with a dignity and a grace beyond the reach of art—of the ordinary denizens of Cockaigne.

MR. KNOWLES, editor of the *Nineteenth Century* and lucky friend of all the prosperous and powerful men of light and leading, has at length been visited by a reverse of fortune. He has lost the star of his company. Mr. Gladstone has withdrawn his favours from him and will henceforth send his magazine articles to the older *Contemporary Review*, to which he was originally attached. The *Nineteenth Century* is now an established thing, and counts the best writers among its contributors and its supporters by the thousand—all, in some measure, owing to Mr. Gladstone making it his organ. At an earlier period, his defection might have been far more seriously felt. Even now, it means some diminution of prestige and some loss of popularity.

THE listless perfunctory way in which the High Court now-a-days performs its functions, is illustrated in a recent case reported in the *Englishman*. A Division Bench worked itself into confusion under the light of recent unequivocal legislation, and a Full Bench has gilded refined gold and painted the lily.

"Is Section 21 of the Bengal Tenancy Act (viii. of 1885) applicable to any suit which was instituted before that Act came into force?" The question was raised in the appeal of Tupsee Singh v. Ramsurun Koeri, before a Division Bench (Messrs. Tottenham and Norris, J. f.) as questions of more or less pertinency, even to the length of absurdity,

will, if allowed, be raised by counsel in order to "digest" (in Bengali phrase) fees with good grace. The wonder is that two superior Judges of our Westminster Hall should have allowed themselves to be puzzled by it so far as to offer it as a nut for the combined wisdom of the Judges sitting in Full Bench to crack. There was no dispute about the facts. The original suit was by a landlord to eject a tenant. The service of notice was proved. A right of occupancy was, however, set up. The plea would not stand under the old, but it prevails under the new, law. The suit was filed in June and the written statement the next month in 1885. The Bengal Tenancy Act came into operation on the 1st November of the same year 1885, and the case was decided by the Munsif in favor of the tenant in January 1886. Decisions of Divisional Benches are to be found supporting the Munsiff's judgment, but the referring Bench remark—

"With great respect to the opinions of the learned judges with whom we have the misfortune to differ, we must confess that we do not see anything in the retrospective operation of Section 21, anything that compels us to give it effect in a suit instituted and heard partly or wholly before the Act came into operation. In any suit instituted under that Act, the tenant would of course be entitled to the benefit in question unless he was debarred by some previous decree in another suit. But we do not see how he can take advantage of any Section creating a right in an Act not yet in force, when the suit was brought and his defence was made."

Mr. Justice Wilson (on behalf of himself, Mr. Justice Tottenham, Mr. Justice Pigot, Mr. Justice O'Kinealy, and Mr. Justice Ghose) thus answers the question in the affirmative:—

"The words that we have to construe are those of Section 21 Subsection 2. The Subsection is this:—'Every person, who being a settled rayyet of a village within the meaning of the last foregoing section, held land as a rayyet in that village at any time between the 2nd day of March 1883 and the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to have acquired a right of occupancy in that land under the law then in force; but nothing in this Subsection shall affect any decree or order passed by a Court before the commencement of this Act.' I accept the proposition contended for by the learned counsel for the appellant, in his able argument, that an enactment affecting rights of property is not to be so construed as to give it retrospective effect, unless the intention that it shall have such effect clearly appears. But I think in the section under consideration such an intention is plainly expressed. The first part of the section deals with the case of lands held by a settled rayyet at or after the date at which it came into operation, and it declares that such holding shall give a right of occupancy. Subsection 2 deals with the case of lands held by a settled rayyet at an earlier period, namely, between the 2nd of March 1883, and the commencement of the Act, and it says that such holding shall be deemed to have given a right of occupancy. The Subsection is therefore in express terms retrospective."

It was further contended that, admitting this to be so, effect should not be given to the Subsection in a case pending before the commencement of the Act, and the learned judges who referred the case to us were disposed to adopt this view. I am quite alive to the inconveniences that arise when a suit has to be decided according to a law not in force when the suit was brought. But I think the language of the section is too clear to enable us to avoid the construction which entails those inconveniences.

The retrospective enactment is quite general in its terms. And the exception from its operation, expressly made by the last words of the section, in the case of decrees or orders passed before the commencement of the Act, seems to me to show that pending suits were not to be excepted. I should answer the question referred to us in the affirmative, and dismiss the appeal with costs."

What other conclusion could they come to? If the Judges of the Divisional Bench had seriously put their minds to the matter before them, they could scarcely have missed the clear intent of the law-givers. We are not surprised that one of them who sat on the Full Bench had nothing to urge in support of the Divisional view. In regard to almost any other Act, the question might properly arise and possibly prevail. But the Tenancy Act is an exceptional piece of legislation, undertaken on purpose to protect the peasantry, and the retrospective effect—the suggestion whereof startled the Divisional Judges—is expressly given in it. The legislature was well aware of the jealousy with which the Zemindars guarded their advantages. It knew that the introduction of the measure would be the signal for a systematic attempt to prejudice the tenantry, by dispossession and otherwise. Hence the subsection. The motion for leave to introduce the Bill was made on the 2nd March 1883, and it was not till the 14th March 1885, or more than two years thence, that the Act received the assent of the Governor-General. Even then, it did not immediately become law. For various reasons, and at the earnest solicitation of the Zemindars, its operation was postponed. It was not till the 1st November that any of its provisions came into force. It took nearly a whole year, after its passing, to become in its entirety the law of the land, on the 1st February 1886. 'Cute landlords had so much opportunity given them to sacrifice their tenants to their greed or their ambition, that the knowing men who had charge of the Bill took the necessary precaution in the interest of the ignorant masses.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1888.

THE FUTURE OF THE OUDH FAMILY.

II.

IN our last issue, we discussed the differences existing between the ordinary form of primogeniture prevailing amongst Aryan communities in Europe and India, as contrasted with the rule prevailing amongst Mahomedan Royal Houses, here and elsewhere. We have there shown that, whilst in the former the rule was strict and almost indefeasible, in the latter it was subject to great variations, there being no line of representation, and the succession depending upon a rule of absolute seniority in age amongst the members of the whole Royal House, closely resembling the Tanistry, which prevailed in Celtic societies, or upon a rule of selection amongst the different sons or other near kindred of the last Sovereign. In connection with this topic, another observation of Sir Henry Maine, recorded in connection with Islamic royalty, is deserving of attention. "It is evident, however, that in polygamous societies the form of primogeniture will always tend to vary. Many considerations may constitute a claim on the succession, *the rank of the mother*, for example, or her degree in the affections of the father." (*Ancient Law*, p. 243). Now, it is curious to find that when the Shasters of the Hindus expressly permitted intermarriage between different castes, the precedence amongst sons was determined by the rank of their respective mothers. Similarly, in the Jungle Mehal *rajgis*, where marriages are still allowed with females of castes or families with whom the Rajas cannot eat together, the sons of *begar bhati* wives are postponed in the succession to the sons by *bhati* wives. The religion of Islam does not recognise any distinctions of caste or restrictions as to eating together, but in Mahomedan families the rank of wives would be determined by their social position previous to their marriage, and the *status* of their parents, as well as (among *Shiahs*) by the permanency or otherwise of the marriage. The *mutah* being only a legalised form of concubinage, among *Shiahs* it is natural that *mutahi* or temporary wives should be considered as inferior in rank and status to the *nikahi* or permanently married wives—and to some extent that distinction would extend to the issue by the respective marriages. The difference in the rank of the mother, alluded to by Maine, must mean, in addition to the social status of the wife's parents, this prominent form of difference, which is the most fundamental difference possible of occurrence in a Mahomedan family of the *Shiah* persuasion. If the Government enquire from proper quarters, they will, we believe, find that the desire of the late Amir Sher Ali Khan to supersede Yakub Khan by a younger son,—and which chiefly brought on all his troubles—was actuated, in part, by a difference in the rank of their mothers. A curious coincidence has just occurred in another part of the Mahomedan world, which would, we are sure, throw some light upon the question at issue. His Majesty the Shah of Persia has, it appears from the newspapers, recently dismissed his eldest son Prince Zillus Sullan, from the high office of Governor-General of the Province of Ispahan, which that Prince had, for several years, been holding with great credit to himself. Now, it may not be known to our readers that Prince Zillus Sultan, although the eldest son of His Majesty, is not the *Wali Ahad* or heir-apparent—that high posi-

tion being occupied by a younger son of His Majesty, born of a mother of a much superior social status. The Shah was very fond of his first born son and had placed him in one of the highest posts of his kingdom. But from the fact of the Order of the G. C. S. I. having been lately conferred upon that Prince by Her Majesty the Queen of England, and probably from other circumstances brought to light, the Shah evidently got alarmed that Prince Zillus Sultan was strengthening his personal position to such an extent, that he might prove a formidable rival to the rightful heir to the Throne—the heir-apparent—after his (the Shah's) death, and so, with a view to put an end to such a possible contingency, His Majesty has removed him from the viceroyalty of Ispahan. That certainly was the reason which prompted His Majesty Wajid Ali Shah, upon the death of his Heir-Apparent, Prince Hamid Ali, son of the chief *nikahi* wife Nawab Khas Mahal, to devolve the ceremonial duties of the latter upon Prince Khush Bakht, although elder sons, prominently the *Chhota General* Prince Huzubber Ali, son of a *mutahi* wife, Nawab Mashook Mahal, were alive. Khush Bakht, as the son of a *nikahi* wife (Nawab Akhtar Mahal), had, alike by royal and popular usage, purer blood, higher rank and greater consideration than any *mutahi* son of His Majesty. Moved by the same feeling, His Majesty arranged a marriage (*nikah*) between Prince Khush Bakht and the relict of the late *Wali Ahad*, Prince Hamid Ali, his object being that if Khush Bakht could get any son by the said lady, who was the daughter of the King's own uterine sister and who had given birth to two sons by the *Wali Ahad*, both of whom had predeceased their father,—the purer line would thereby continue in His Majesty's family. When Prince Khush Bakht too, died, without leaving any issue by that wife, His Majesty's line of pure descent became extinct. His sons by *nikahi* wives had all predeceased him, and none of them had left issue by *nikahi* wives. Of sons by *mutahi* wives, His Majesty had enough and to spare, but they were incapable, in his opinion, of taking the place of his *nikahi* sons. In an official communication addressed in 1877 to the Agent, Governor-General, His Majesty expressed himself as follows:—

"I may add that reason, law and family custom all combine in acknowledging the superiority in the rank of the issue of a married wife of respectable parentage before that of a *mutah* wife, irrespective of the age of the latter issue. For these reasons, according to the custom in this Royal Family, the issue of a *mutah* wife (however elder in years) never gets precedence while the issue of a *shadi* wife may be in existence.

* the right to succeed as heir-apparent or successor in a royal house like ours can never be inherited except by the issue of a *shadi* wife."

The Political Department, which had then espoused the cause of the *Chhota General* (a *mutahi* son of His Majesty) and worked itself into a regular passion over the case, light-heartedly passed over these asseverations of His Majesty as made simply to spite their *protégé*, but a dispassionate critic, examining them by the light of the dictum of Sir Henry Maine already quoted and the actual instance in Afghanistan, will surely arrive at the conclusion that there was a great deal of truth in the said statements.

Similar considerations afford a consistent key to the conduct of His Majesty after the demise of Prince Khush Bakht. Although many sons by *mutahi* wives (the *Chhota General* Prince Hazubber Ali and Prince Kamar Kadr included) were then alive and within reach, His Majesty conferred the quasi-*Wali-Ahad* status enjoyed by Prince Khush Bakht upon Prince Mirza Jehan Kadr Bahadur, and

put him forward as his representative. Failing pure issue of his own, His Majesty naturally turned to his brother's line and conferred the representative status upon his nephew, the only son of the Prince General by his *nikahi* wife. Of course, it is well-known that Prince Jehan Kadr had other claims upon His Majesty's affections, but we doubt whether His Majesty's surviving sons would have been so summarily superseded, had their mothers been allied to His Majesty by permanent bonds of matrimony. Here again we may remark, that the last corroboration of the above sentiment is afforded by the otherwise strange phenomenon announced in the papers, that the leading collateral members of the Royal Family in Lucknow, have declared in favor of recognising Prince Jehan Kadr as the representative of the family at Calcutta. Of course, personal qualifications count for much in such matters, but we doubt whether that alone would have led to the supersession of the whole class of His Majesty's surviving sons, had it not been strengthened by the idea that the purest blood in the family was now represented not by the line of His late Majesty, but by the line of His Majesty's younger brother the Prince General, who, when alive, had the next rank in the kingdom below His Majesty.

So far as the legal distribution of the assets of the estate of His Majesty is concerned, there is no objection to the *mutahi* sons of His Majesty receiving their pound of flesh from the Government as the Administrator of the Estate. If, however, further provision is to be made for them from the public funds, and a public status conferred upon them, the matter is one which comes legitimately within the scope of public discussion, and it is but just and proper that in the disposal thereof due regard should be had to the acts and declarations of His Majesty, the sentiments of the disinterested members of the Royal Family residing at Lucknow, and the pretty unanimous verdict of the native public who will have most to deal with this bevy of princelings. Mr. Secretary Macaulay's letter of instructions to Mr. Peacock's Committee, contained a forcible expression of Sir Ashley Eden's opinions upon the true position of His Majesty's *mutahi* women and their offspring, which deserve the attention of the Government of India at the present juncture.

THE NATIVE PRESS ON THE VICEROYALTY.

THE most desperate efforts are being made by the Calcutta malcontents to work the native press into harmony, real or seeming, with their wild and mischievous attitude towards the Viceroy. But although several of our contemporaries have succumbed to appeals supported by rank falsehood, yet it is evident that the country in general has kept its head sufficiently cool. We can afford space for only a few extracts, at least this week. We commence with the *Lucknow Express*:—

"Whatever certain sections of the native press may allege to the contrary, there can be no question as to the great success of last Thursday's demonstration at the Calcutta Town Hall. All classes, including the masses, united to express their deep regret at Lord Dufferin's resignation of his high office, and all alike joined in lauding the Viceroy's high character, the elevated sense of duty to the people and country which has throughout actuated him, and the large measure of success which has attended his administration of public affairs. The meeting was one of the largest and most enthusiastic on record, and the large number of native gentlemen present on the occasion, testifies to the singular unanimity of public sentiment, European and Native, in regard to the Viceroy, his public life among us, and the singleness of purpose which he has brought to bear upon his administrative functions in the interests of India."—*Express*, 28th March 1888."

The *Sind Times* notices the extraordinary rush

made to the press by that soul of music Sir Sourendra Mohun Tagore, to protest that he did not understand politics, of which so much was made in the Titoo Meer's *killa* of the malcontents :—

"Harmony is the soul of music, and true to his instincts and the darling object to which he has consecrated his whole life, the eminent rajah proposes to take part in some of the demonstrations in favor of the retiring Viceroy, simply out of a pure love for harmony. Read between the lines the semi-facetious letter of Sir S. N. Tagore appears to us to be a homily upon the unmusical wordy warfare of the *Mirror* and other Bengal journalists. The *Mirror*, however, brings it forward to prove the enforced and factitious character of the Dufferin demonstration."—*Sind Times*, 21st March 1888.

In this connection, we may observe that there are several gentlemen of the same name with the Raja's, and it was we believe a namesake of his who signed the Requisition to the Sheriff to call the meeting.

The *Mahratta* writes :—

"Taking Lord Dufferin's administration all in all we must say that the counterdemonstrations and very hostile criticisms which have appeared on the Bengal side do not appear to us to be either justified or in good taste. In fact we have not been able to understand why the tone of our contemporaries on the other side should have been so bitter."—*Mahratta*, 1st April 1888.

The *People's Friend* of Madras writes :—

"Many of our countrymen have gone on the dissecting tack, and, instead of looking at his administration as a whole, have selected the few worst parts for their irreverent and adverse criticism. They forget the circumstances under which he succeeded Earl Ripon, and they entirely are oblivious how he has been wire pulled by Lord Cross. We look upon Lord Dufferin's rule as on the whole wise, and advantageous to the country, and we shall prove this ; but we do not say it was perfect.

Who ever hopes a faultless piece to see,
Thinks what ne'er was, nor is, nor e'er shall be.

Canada was proud of him, but India more hard to please, capricious and whimsical, is not capable of appreciating him."—*People's Friend*, 31st March 1888.

"Capricious and whimsical" our contemporary may well call us of the North, to spare bitter epithets. Fortunately, we are not all in the same boat. Here is leading native organ of our North-Western frontier :

"His Excellency was not unpopular—our opinion is that he was popular. His kind and candid utterances on all public occasions, his sympathetic attitude towards the National Congress movement, and his offer of a seat in his Council to Sir T. Madhava Rao, immediately after his election as Chairman of the meeting to welcome the delegates to the National Congress at Madras, his appointment of the Public Service Commission, his dealing out justice to so high-placed a Civilian as Mr. Beames, of Bengal, had made him popular. The people further knew that Lord Dufferin had written to the Secretary of State for India, strongly advocating the advisability of placing the Legislative Councils on a broader and more representative basis. We believe he was popular ; and we very much regret that, owing to the indiscretion of his personal friends, his popularity has suffered such a shock. The people liked Lord Dufferin's kindness, good-will and efforts in their behalf, and they disliked his annexation of Burmah in the interests of English commerce, and the imposition of the Income Tax and the rising of the Salt Tax, to meet the cost of that annexation. For the last they would hold no demonstration in his honour, and for the first they would not oppose any demonstration in his honour. If they have opposed it now it is because the movement in his honour was set on foot in *their* name. If they made no protest, the impression in England would be that Lord Dufferin's rule was as popular as that of his predecessor. Such an impression would be of great harm to the interests of India. In those interests, it is necessary that England should know our opinion of our rulers, so that they might know what sort of rulers would best serve the interests of India. This is, we think, what has led the public of Bengal to do the unpleasant."—*Tribune*, March 28.

Again :—

"His Excellency has done some good to India, and he may yet do some more good. Moreover, the annexation of Burmah and the frontier railways and other defences, which have cost India so much money, are works of Imperial policy, over which, we believe, Lord Dufferin had little control. It is a great pity that the Calcutta promoters of the meeting did not wait till the eve of Lord Dufferin's departure from these shores, by which time the excitement caused by the publication of the notorious Police Circular and the sudden news of the Viceroy's resignation would have subsided, and the public would have settled into a frame of mind in which it could have calmly pronounced opinion on his Excellency's rule."

We come homewards to Behar. It is a pity that the *Tirhoot Courier* does not print on a rather better stuff, so that all its merit is in danger of being lost on the public. It is withal one of the best papers in the country, conducted by men of culture, sobriety and political grasp. One word from such a quarter is worth a bushel of the thoughts of most of our self-elected oracles. In these days when blatant journalism, judging its neighbours by itself, is ready to

assign every act or opinion opposed to its view or the policy of its idols, to a base motive, we may as well say that this is not the first time that we have openly expressed such admiration for this Behar journal. That admiration has not prevented us from differing with it, specially in European politics, which it treats with more intelligence than any other organ of native opinion. We may add that we do not know the editor or conductors, and have no idea as to who he or they may be. On the present controversy, our contemporary has written with its usual wisdom and moderation. And it has shown rare courage, and done no small public service, by forcibly opening the eyes of our countrymen a bit to the true stature of the Avatar of their worship. The *Tirhoot Courier* is no admirer of the Foreign Policy of the present administration. On the subject of Burma, we are at one with the *Courier*, and even go beyond our contemporary, having always condemned alike the sudden war upon a weak and stupid neighbour, and the still less justifiable annexation which followed the easy and honourable submission of the poor King. Our views on this great question are altogether our own and somewhat peculiar perhaps, even among those who condemn the Burman policy of Government, being based on some general principles and, also, upon some information not open to the general public nor even to Government. Thus, for one thing, we do not regard His Majesty Theebaw as the monster that the Viceroy and his Government and the public agree in thinking him to be. What warrant has the *Courier* for calling the King "despicable" ? He has been bloody doubtless, but not more so than many princes, Eastern and Western, who have counted sincere admirers among the best and bravest by hundreds and thousands. His domestic massacres were his business, and called for no interference of other Powers. Was Theebaw a worse miscreant than the Shumsheres who now rule Nepal ? And do we send an army up the Himalayas to chastise the latter for their crimes ? The other day the Viceroy received them and warmly shook their hands all tainted with the gore of dearest relations. Political blood-thirstiness apart, Theebaw was a respectable man. But he was an egregious fool and impracticable to a degree. Therein lay his offence to neighbouring states, and the best justification of the Indian Government. There was so much difficulty in dealing with him, that the first opportunity was taken to sweep him away as an encumbrance and a nuisance. And lusty in our strength, over-powered by the temptation of easy acquisition of a vast kingdom, our rulers, forgetful of other considerations, such as the effect of its action on opinion near and far, naturally enough, insured themselves against the possibility of another Theebaw, by swallowing Upper Burma within the Empire. The fault, such as it is, is as much the ministry's in London as the Viceroy's on the spot. It is, strictly speaking, more England's than either's.

We see we have been beguiled into longer writing on the Burma business than we set out with the intention of giving in the present connection, our purpose being rather to lay before our readers the opinion of other journals, just to show the gulf that separates respectable, responsible and intelligent critics from the maniacs nearer home. We will, therefore, not tarry over the Central Asian Policy. The *Courier* frankly acknowledges that the Policy had been determined by the preceding Government, and adds, "we cannot but admire Lord Dufferin's personal skill in carrying it out, and specially the way in which

he managed to deal with the Ameer after the unfortunate affair of Pandjeh."

Our contemporary gives full and unqualified support to the domestic policy of the Viceroy. We read:—

"Lord Dufferin's fiscal measures are, we believe, so far wise that he has seen more clearly than most of our past Viceroys the necessity of making both sides meet, and of understanding that this can only be done by the most rigid economy, and also by introducing more of the cheaper native in place of the more expensive European element in the administration. Lord Dufferin's fame will rest more surely on the influence he has had in quelling race feeling than on any administrative act. When the Marquis of Ripon left India that feeling was very strong. It was one of the reasons why a man of Lord Dufferin's personal tact was so imperatively needed in the place of that well meaning, right principled but rather weak and impracticable Viceroy. Lord Dufferin's words on the matter in his speech at the Town Hall deserve to be inscribed in letters of gold over every Editor's table."

Our contemporary here quotes that admirable passage in the Viceroy's Reply in which he exhorts all races in India, European and native, to live in peace and neighbourly cordiality as members of the same community. The *Courier* then truly remarks:—

"Words, such as these, do not come from a re-actionary Bureaucrat. Indeed it is the broadness of Lord Dufferin's sympathies no less than the personal attractiveness of the man, that have made him so popular, wherever he has gone."—The *Tirhoot Courier*, Mar. 28.

The two leading malcontents are too deep in the mire for reasoning, but we earnestly commend the above to the candid attention of those who have been by them so sadly misled into an unmerited indiscriminate outcry out of season.

Other papers have expressed themselves to much the same purport as the foregoing journals, but we have just now lost the reference. They all have had something good to say of one or another point in the administration, and all have testified to the personal qualities of the Viceroy and the purity of his intentions and the philanthropy of his wife. With regard to the great demonstration in their honor, we see that most of them have been misled by lying telegrams from the malcontent camp. It was reserved for two journals in Calcutta, to pursue the administration with unreasoning fury and desperate rancour. One in particular has gone to lengths of which no respectable man in his senses would dream.

WE are sorry to record the death of Baboo Sreenath Roy. He belonged to the Subordinate Judicial Service. He had matured himself into a good officer. He did excellently as a Judge of the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, at which post he died. He had been on leave, though. How is the vacancy to be filled? There are many barristers who would be too glad to get into the place. But would it be proper to deprive the S. J. Service of such a prize appointment? The High Court Bench being practically closed to them, the members of that hard-working and most deserving body have nothing better to look up to.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Have you witnessed, Mr. Editor, a curious nondescript exposed for show or, as some say, for sale in *Mirror's* curiosity shop, and which, if we are to trust to popular rumour, goes by the name of "Chabook?" Old men, fools and children calculate as to what this "chabook" is. Third rate undergraduates with little grammar and less idiom and with spectacles on, assure us that "chabook" will ultimately prove to be a fixed star in the literary sky. Their elders conjecture, and perhaps with some degree of truth, that it is nothing more than a short-lived lantern at the tail of a newspaper kite. This *chabook* riddle has puzzled many a wit. With your encyclopaedic knowledge of men and things, will you kindly tell me

Who is *Chabook*? What is he?

That Dan *Mirror* commends him.

I have made a feeble attempt to solve the riddle myself but I cannot vouch for its correctness.

Dullness incarnate is he,

God with care this gift has lent him,

That he might pooh-poohed be.

Or, if you do not like, Mr. Editor, the above solution, I will offer another which is due to one of my friends, to whom the smell of an old folio is passing sweet and who suggests that a very old poet—name unknown—thus sings of the illustrious house of the "Chabooks."

"Chabooks" are begotten by Folly,

By Folly nursed; and "Chabooks" die

With none to close their eye.

But this record of the "Chabooks" supplied by my friend is extremely meagre, and therefore I am compelled to disturb you for an elaborate and an authentic history of the "Chabooks."

If you have no objection, Mr. Editor, I would like to add to the above lines two of my own,

Let us all ring *Chabook's* knell.

I will begin it—Ding, dong, bell.

Mirror's "Chabook," who to the great merriment of the *Mirror-ites* and to the edification of himself, has of late drenched you with the rinsings of an unclean imagination, is, I believe, the last of the "Chabooks" and will ere long with his *riaiseries* go to the family vault "of all the Capulets."

We are now in a position to understand how *Reis and Rayyet* and its Editor are unmentionable to the "fair, large ears" of Master *Chabook*. For do we not remember how Bottom the weaver says, that he has a good stomach to a pottle of hay when Titania offers him a feast of beauty?

You may be, and all the world knows, you are "a man of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy." But Master *Chabook* will none of it. Have you, Mr. Editor, a copious fund of the billingsgate? By all means treat Master *Chabook* to it for he has, it may be well presumed, a good stomach to it.

Master *Chabook* has thought it fit to "dub" you a scribbler, but ere long he will come to know that you will

publish right or wrong,

for ever since your journalistic career,

Fools are your theme and satire is your song.

Master *Chabook* by his predilection for tame puns has clearly shown that "for anointed dullness he was made."

Master *Chabook* would make a capital penny-a-liner, for is he not an adept in false rhetoric? We quote:—

"Lord Dufferin's admirers must have been verily reduced to a desperate pass when it has been felt necessary to invoke a Shiva-Sambhu (!) for the salvation of His Lordship's reputation."

Bravo! Master *Chabook*, we do not know whether it is poetry or prose run mad. Is it not, Mr. Editor, redolent of the Surrender-Not-ians. Excuse, Mr. Editor, Surrender-Not-ians is too elegant a word to be pedantic. "Bark, bite" and you are fairly on the way to political salvation—such, I believe, is the alpha and omega of the political creed of *Chabook-ism*.

We are fallen on evil days, Mr. Editor, when you of all men in the world would be dubbed a toady and tuft-hunter. Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee seeking a handle to his name—this is pure *Chabook-ese*—a mere figment of Master *Chabook's* brain, if God has given him any.

It would be difficult for your worst enemies to point out a single occasion when you

narrowed your mind,

And to party gave up what was meant for mankind.

To *Chabook* and his imps you may appear a "hoary scribbler," but you won your spurs long before *Chabook* and his imps were in embryo, and for our part we heartily wish we had the privilege to sit at your feet every now and then to learn politics and literature.

Calcutta, April 6.

ANTI-CHABOOK.

LORD DUFFERIN'S REPLY TO THE CALCUTTA ADDRESS.

Gentlemen,—I am sure you will readily understand that it is almost impossible for me to express in words my deep sense of the honour conferred upon me by the presentation of such an address as that which you have just read. To be assured of the good-will, the confidence, and the approval of his fellow-countrymen and fellow-subjects, whether English or Native, is the highest and the most legitimate reward to which a person in my situation can aspire. (Cheers.) Indeed the marks of approbation which I have received from so many different quarters have taken me almost by surprise. A Viceroy is so continually engaged every hour of the day in labours requiring all his energy and attention, problem after problem presses so uninterruptedly upon his consideration, that he has not even breathing time to ask himself whether he is satisfying the expectations of his friends or the reverse. (Cheers.) Nay more, the issues with which he is confronted are so vast and far-reaching, affecting as they do the destinies of millions and millions of men, that his own puny individuality and personal interests sink into insignificance in the presence of these mighty multitudes for whose welfare he is responsible. (Applause.) And it is very fortunate that this should be the case, for I cannot conceive a greater danger to India than that a man, in assuming this great office, should be pre-occupied with such trivial considerations as his fame for popularity. (Cheers.) His duty is to efface himself as much as possible, and to forget his own identity in his devotion to those absorbing duties with which he is entrusted. It is in accordance with this golden rule, that my illustrious predecessors have invariably lived and laboured, and it is the same spirit of self-abnegation and unostentatious devotion to duty, irrespective of recognition or reward, that has characterized the successive generations of those public servants of all ranks who, at the sacrifice of ease, health, and even life itself, have built up the India of to-day,—the loyal, contented, and prosperous India of Queen Victoria. (Loud cheers.) Nor, in thanking you for the kind expressions you use towards me, must I forget to remind you that it is to the Government of India and to my colleagues that the largest measure of the approval you are pleased to bestow upon me, is justly due. If I have succeeded in steering the Ship of State with success through the troublous period we have recently traversed, it is owing to their wise assistance in Council and to the energy and skill with which they have administered their several Departments. (Applause.) Not only so, but it must also be remembered that a great deal of the harvest reaped in one Viceroyalty is the fruit of the seed sown and the labours inaugurated in the preceding reign, and I gladly acknowledge that

much of the policy of the existing Indian Government which has met with cordial acceptance, both here and at home, received its original impulse from my predecessor, with whom, as is well known, originated the demarcation of the northern frontier of Afghanistan. The settlement finally arrived at, though some people make light of it, is in my eyes a most valuable diplomatic achievement, and I venture to think that our policy as a whole in that region has been successful. (Cheers.) The fixing of the confines of India proper at the Amran Range has placed us in possession of an advanced military position of almost impregnable strength, and my interview with the Amir not only prevented a war which would certainly have broken out between England and Russia in connexion with the Panjdeh affair had he not been in my camp when that sinister event occurred, but by the knowledge it gave me of his character, wishes, and mode of thought, and by the mutual good feeling which was then established, it has enabled me to secure his assent to the Russo-Afghan settlement, and to deal with many other delicate questions which have since risen between us in a manner to increase and corroborate his confidence in the friendship and good faith of the English Government. (Applause.) Nor is it merely with the Amir himself that better relations have been established, the Afghan people generally have assumed a totally different attitude towards us during the last three years from that which previously prevailed, as was exemplified not only when Sir West Ridgeway and his companions returned through Cabul to India, but in a still more remarkable degree by the cordial reception given to our boundary escorts at those very places near which a little while ago they dare not even pass by reason of the hostility of the inhabitants. (Cheers.)

Turning to the next topic upon which you have touched, the conquest of Burma, I need not assure you that it is a great satisfaction to me that our policy in this respect should meet with your approval. War of course is always a hateful and evil thing; no one detests the very thought of war more heartily than myself. Again, annexation, the increase of our territories, and consequently of our responsibilities, is confessedly undesirable; yet I never had a clearer conviction of anything in my life than as to the necessity, under the then existing circumstances, of extending our control over the whole of the Irrawaddy valley? (Applause.) What was Burma? It was neither a Government nor a Kingdom. There was no central authority. Even after massacring most of his relatives and kindred, the King did not dare to leave the precincts of his palace. His whole territory was the theatre of anarchy and lawlessness. One-half of the population lived by plundering the other half. The local Chiefs were cruel and rapacious brigands, extorting money from the helpless villagers at the point of the sword. A Chinese horde had a short time previously taken possession of one of Burma's most important northern towns, and the Government of Mandalay had embarked upon a line of diplomacy which would have infallibly brought us into hostile collision with a great European Power. (Cheers.) English merchants who had sunk large sums on the express invitation of the Burmese Government in developing the resources of the country, were treated with the greatest injustice, and the temperate remonstrances of the Government of India on their behalf were replied to with insolence and contempt; while the total disintegration of all civil society in Upper Burma was exercising a most pernicious and baneful influence on the peace and prosperity of our own Province. In these circumstances something had to be done, and if only the moderate and benevolent terms of the Indian Government had been accepted, the tottering Court of Ava might have been kept upon its legs a little longer, though under no conceivable circumstances could the catastrophe have been very long delayed. As it was, our proposals were met with a declaration of war, and Upper Burma became a province of the British Empire. (Cheers.) I am well aware that this result has not been regarded with great satisfaction by some of our native fellow-subjects. On the one hand, they could hardly be expected to look at the question from the Imperial standpoint, while, on the other, they naturally dreaded the expense inevitably attending conquest; but it is evident, even taking the most restricted view of the matter, that India was bound, after drawing for several years a surplus revenue of a million a year from Lower Burma, to come to the assistance of the Province when it had become so obviously necessary to provide for its protection. Nor do I think that any apprehension need be entertained as to the ultimate financial effect of what we have done. (Cheers.) At first, of course, there must be a great deal of expenditure on Courts of Justice, Barracks, Jails, and the other appliances of civilisation, but the more we know about the country the more extensive and the richer seem to be its resources, and the more certain it is that in the course of some years it will become an even more prolific contributor to the Indian Exchequer than Lower Burma. (Loud Applause.) In any event, the verdict of History I am sure will pronounce that by establishing in that unfortunate country order, security, peace and justice, in the place of anarchy, rapine, torture and murder, and by replacing the late King's helpless and hopeless administration by the temperate and benign rule of Queen Victoria, we have reached a consummation as beneficent as it was unavoidable. (Cheers.)

I approach the next topic to which you have alluded with great

reluctance, notwithstanding the gracious language in which you have been pleased to clothe your reference. How can the head of any Government reflect otherwise than with pain and regret on the hard fate which has compelled him on two repeated occasions to add to the burdens of the people? That after this he should be regarded with tolerance and equanimity would itself argue great generosity of nature in those to whom he has dealt such hard measure; but the fact of their so candidly recognizing the necessity of these unpopular expedients which, in the case of the Income Tax so immediately affects our industrious classes and the Civil Service, is indeed to pour coals of fire on his head. (Applause.)

To the Finance Committee and to the Public Service Committee I can turn, however, with a far happier feeling, for if ever two Committees did their work honestly, thoroughly, and effectually, it is those two bodies, and glad am I to have this opportunity of expressing my deep thanks to Sir Charles Elliott and Sir Charles Aitchison and their respective colleagues for the great services they have rendered to the Government by their arduous labours. (Applause.) The Report of the Finance Committee will, I hope, soon be in possession of the public. That of the Civil Service Committee has already, I believe, been laid on the Table of the House of Commons, and it is now in the hands of the local Governments, on the receipt of whose opinion it will be at once dealt with by the Government of India. (Applause.)

Leaving, however, these two important topics, I turn even with greater pleasure to your allusions to the noble spirit which has been recently displayed by the Feudatory Princes and Chieftains of India. Most heartily do I agree with you in all that you have said in their regard, for certainly a finer example of patriotism and loyalty has seldom been witnessed than that displayed by these august personages. (Cheers.) The Nizam, the Gackwar, Holkar, the Maharajah of Cashmere, the martial Chiefs of Rajputana and of the Punjab—one and all with an enthusiasm and a spontaneity without parallel, have not merely made offers of large sums of money, but have placed their persons, their swords, and all the resources of their States at the disposal of Her Most Gracious Majesty. (Cheers.) What more signal justification could we have of that equitable spirit which has recognized the fidelity and worth of those Princes, and of that sound policy which has made their power and dignity an integral part of the Imperial system. Most of them are my personal friends, and though here and there may be a Ruler less appreciative than his fellows of the responsibilities imposed upon him by his great position, without flattery I can say that both as regards their private characters, their sense of duty, their desire to benefit their subjects and their friendly feelings towards the British Government, there is every cause for satisfaction. (Applause.) And I can assure them that the British Government desires no better than that they should administer their several States in accordance with their own lights, untrammelled by undue interference, and along whatever lines are most natural to the habits and customs of their people. (Applause.) Above all things I hope it will be remembered both by them and by the Indian people at large that if here and there the Government has had to make its influence felt at a Native Court, so exceptional a procedure has only been adopted in the last resort, most unwillingly, and in the interests of the Chief himself and of the people for whose welfare he is responsible. (Cheers.)

And now, gentlemen, what more am I to say? You all know how deeply I have had at heart the interests and the welfare of all classes of the community, how impartially I have endeavoured to promote the welfare of each in turn, how faithful I have been to that obligation which has been always felt by the Government of India, to see in every subject of the Queen not the member of a sect, of a caste, of a religion, but a citizen of the Empire possessed of rights and privileges which are equally the property of all. (Loud Applause.) What can I say to you, Europeans and Natives alike, but this:—Whatever you do, live in unity and concord and good fellowship with each other. Fate has united both races in a community of interests, and neither can do without the other. (Cheers.) The rule of England maintains peace and justice within the borders of India and secures its safety from outside dangers, but that rule cannot be exercised either effectually or acceptably without the loyalty and assistance of the Native races. (Applause.) Therefore, again, I say, co-operate with each other in a generous and genial spirit. I confess I would rather see the Europeans, Hindus, and Mahomedans united in criticizing the Government than that the Hindus and the Mahomedans, the Europeans and the Natives, should become estranged from each other by unworthy prejudices, or animosities of race and religion. God forbid that the British Government should ever seek to maintain its rule in India by fomenting race hatreds amongst its subjects. Thank Heaven, its antecedents, its strength, its self-confidence, and its dignity will for ever render a resource to such expedients unnecessary and impossible. (Cheers.) To those amongst my Native friends who, imbued with the political literature of the West, are seeking to apply to India the lessons they have learnt from the history of constitutional countries, I would say, pursue your objects, which no one can pronounce to be unworthy, with temper, with moderation, and with a due perception of the peculiar circumstances of your

native land. (Applause.) Found your claims, whatever they may be, upon what is real and true, and not upon what is baseless and fantastic. It is by this method, and by this method alone, that you have a prospect of realizing anything practical. (Cheers.) My general feelings on these subjects I have already expressed in the speech I delivered on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee, and to what I then said it is needless to say I still adhere. (Cheers.) To the writers in the public press I would say, pursue your most honorable vocation in a manly, courageous, and faithful spirit. When England gave you a free press she intended that it should become an instrument for the guidance, the assistance, and the enlightenment of the Government and the protection of the people; nor will any Viceroy or any Government ever complain, no matter how severely you criticize what they have said, written, or done, provided there is that ring of sincerity and conviction in your utterances which none can mistake. (Applause.) But do not seek to excite the hatred of the people against the Government by attributing to it intentions and designs which are the fruit of your own imagination. (Cheers.) It was misrepresentations of this kind that thirty years ago helped powerfully to deluge the land with blood, and those who indulge in them are abusing the protection and freedom of speech extended to them by the laws of England, a freedom which a considerable portion of the Indian press I gladly acknowledge exercises with sagacity, discretion and moderation, and which I trust it will every day be found more worthy to enjoy. (Applause.)

These I think are the only valedictory words with which I need trouble you. It only remains for me again to assure you from the very bottom of my heart that I have been deeply touched by this proof of your good-will and generous appreciation. (Cheers.) I shall never forget my friends in this country. It will always be my

earnest endeavour, if I ever again take part in public life in England, to further the interests of my Indian fellow-subjects and to consider in a sympathetic and liberal spirit whatever demands they may prefer. (Cheers.) The English Empire in India is, indeed, a marvel of the world; and encouraged by your approbation I hope to carry home with me the conviction that, in the opinion of my Anglo-Indian countrymen, and of my Indian fellow-subjects, I have done nothing during the four years of my anxious rule to shake its stability, to dim the glory of its majesty, or to tarnish that reputation for humanity, justice, and truth which is its crowning and most precious attribute. (Loud and long continued cheers and applause.)

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men of whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

SALE OF IRON PADDLE STEAMER.

TENDERS for the purchase of the Madras Government Steam Tug *Madras*, built at Blackwall by T. A. Young in 1876, will be received by the Port Officer at Madras, up to noon of Tuesday the 1st May 1888.

2. The vessel will be sold at Calcutta with engines, boilers, masts, sails, awnings, spars, anchors, cables, boats, and such other stores as may be on board on the 30th March and which will not be removed previous to the sale.

3. Each tender, before being opened, must be accompanied by a treasury receipt for a sum equal to 25 per cent. of the amount offered, and the balance must be paid within 48 hours of acceptance of the tender and before delivery is taken. The tenders will be submitted to the Government of Madras for orders.

4. The vessel will be at the risk and charge of the purchaser from the date the acceptance of the tender by Government is communicated to him.

5. The following description of the vessel is believed to be correct, but any errors or misdescription shall not annul the sale, nor shall any compensation be allowed on that account :—

Tonnage	... 197 gross.
Do. ...	... 57 nett.
When built	... In the year 1876.
Where built	... At Blackwall.
Extreme length	... 123 feet 4 inches.
Do. breadth	... 20 feet 8 inches.
Depth ...	... 11 feet 1 inch.
Number of bulkheads	Three.
Do. of decks	... One.
Engines	... Two side lever disconnecting surface condensing.
Boilers ...	... One multitubular.
Horsepower indicated	137.
Do. nominal.	75.

6. The vessel will be open for inspection at Calcutta on applying for an order to the Deputy Director of Indian Marine on or after the 30th March 1888.

H. A. STREET,
Capt., H.M.'s Indian Marine,
Port Officer.

Madras Port Office,
15th March 1888.

12, LAL BAZAAR, CALCUTTA,

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The Steamer "NEPAUL" will leave Goalundo for Assam on Thursday, the 12th idem.

Intending passengers by the last mentioned Steamer should leave Calcutta for Goalundo by train the previous night.

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Through Booking to and from Assam.

The Despatch Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily on arrival of the Mails from Calcutta, and proceed to Debrooghur, stopping at all intermediate stations and Mookhs.

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Through bills of lading will be granted for goods and parcels on presentation of rail receipt or payment of freight. Packages not to exceed ten hundred weight, or 8 feet by 4 feet by 4 feet in measurement.

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GEO. L. KEMP,

Secretary.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1888.

No. 319

BERLIN, THE SIXTEENTH OF MARCH.

BY SIR EDWIN ARNOLD, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.

Thunder of Funeral Guns !

Deep, sad Bells ! with your boom ;
Sorrowful voice of Soldiers and Folk !
Whom lay ye here in the Tomb ?

"Whom?" the cannons reply—
Baying like Dogs of War
Whose Master is gone on a path unknown—
"Our Glory, and Lord, and Star !"

"William, Kaiser and King,
"For him our iron throats yell ;
"Victor we hailed him on many a field,
"We make to his soul farewell !"

"Whom?" say the slow-swinging-bells—
"William, pious and dear !
" Oftimes he knelt to the King of Kings
"Where now he lies on his bier !"

"He took from his God alone
"The Crown of the Fatherland ;
"And now he hath given it back undimmed
"To Death's all-masterful hand !"

"Whom?" shout the serried ranks—
"Guardsmen, and Jagers, and all,—
"The Lordliest Lord and the Kingliest King
"That ever raised Battle call !"

"At his word we thronged to the Field,
"Sure of success to betide ;
"Sure that our Kaiser would fight for peace ;
"Sure of Heaven on our side !"

"Whom?" sigh women and men,
"And fair-haired Germany boys,
"And girls, with eyes of his corn-flower's hue,
"For our Father we raise our voice !"

"William the Emperor dead !
"Lo ! he made us one Land !
"Thanks to him and his chosen chiefs,
"Strong and secure we stand !"

"Steadfast from birth to death,
"Whatso was Right he wrought !
"Duty he loved, and his people, and home !
"Now to dust he is brought !"

Thunder of Funeral Guns !

We hear you with English ears.
In English breasts it echoes—sad bells !
This message your tolling bears !

Warriors, stalwart and fierce !
We see you are tender and true ;
We are come of a kindred blood, we share
This sorrow, to-day, with you !

Folk of the Fatherland !
Our hearts for your grief are fain !
God guard your Kaiser Frederick,
And give ye good days again !

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

DACCA was visited last Saturday by a tornado, and its new Nawabs have been shaken, with their palace dismantled and their best friend lost. We hope they will take the warning.

MR. A. P. MACDONELL has returned from leave and rejoined his place as Secretary in the Home Department.

BOMBAY has an unwelcome visitor in its midst—the small pox. The Corporation has set apart Rs. 3,000 for a temporary home for those especially marked by the visitor.

LAST week we had to record the death of a native Judge of the Calcutta Court for Small Causes. It is a misnomer to call the Court Small since the increase to Rs. 2,000 in the value of its Causes. On Monday, the Chief Judge mourned the loss of the native Registrar-Judge, Baboo Rajkisto Sen.

ON account of the cholera, the Viceroy does not go to Cashmere. Lord Dufferin left Lucknow direct for Simla which he reaches this day.

SIXTY thousand acres of cultivated land have been submerged by floods in Hungary.

THE Ameer is breaking up camp at Jellalabad. Most of his family have already left for Gundamuk, and he himself remains with one wife and eight attendants.

THE Kazi of Bhokhara the Noble, for his Russian proclivities, has been publicly disgraced, and Ulemas are preaching throughout the country that friendship with Russia is forbidden to the Faithful.

THE Salem Municipality has been called upon by the Madras Government to explain why it incurred any expenditure for reception of the Governor without previous sanction. A most proper call, worthy of Lord Connemara's manliness.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE Dewan of Indore has at length discovered that Tantia Bhil has relations and friends in the capital of the Holkar itself, who receive money from him and who protect and conceal him whenever pursued hard. The Dewan has had these men arrested and committed to the sessions. If the Court is independent, the Minister will scarcely succeed. Tantia himself being at large, the necessary proof will, in all probability, be wanting. If proof be perfect, we doubt whether the law will be found—unless the Judge is prepared to make one from the Bench. We do not know if the Holkar Code has been reformed in this direction. If it has, the reform is against the grain of native sentiment. Anyhow, considering that the Minister has set this prosecution in motion and is understood to take great interest in it, the prisoners are in peril.

THE agitation of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* in behalf of Siddiq Hossain, the guiding genius in the Bhopal mal-administration, has ended in the following letter, dated Fort William, March 29, from the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, to Sir Lepel Griffin, K.C.S.I., Agent to the Governor-General in Central India:—

"I have laid before the Governor-General in Council the representations you have submitted regarding certain articles in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* and other newspapers, which reflect upon measures recently taken in the Bhopal State.

2. You have recommended the criminal prosecution of these newspapers, both in the interests of the Government and on the more personal ground of defence of yourself. In the event of the Government not desiring to institute such proceedings, you ask that you may receive a public and official expression of confidence and approval from the Governor-General in Council. Your observations have been carefully considered, and I am now to communicate to you the following orders.

3. The Governor-General in Council is assured that the attitude of the Government in respect of Her Highness the Begum and her country needs no vindication against criticism which evinces a spirit of mere partisanship on behalf of an individual, and complete disregard for the people of Bhopal. The Governor-General in Council therefore holds that the interests of the Government would be in no way served by the institution of criminal proceedings against the newspapers containing the attacks to which you refer.

4. As far as you are personally concerned, it appears to His Excellency the Viceroy that you also can afford to treat these attacks with indifference. You have the satisfaction of knowing that the policy of the Government in Bhopal affairs was in great measure based upon your advice; that it has already succeeded in removing serious grievances, and introducing valuable reforms; that your action has been consistently supported by the Governor-General in Council; and further, that Her Majesty's Secretary of State has been pleased to express his sense of the vigour, judgment, and discretion you have displayed.

5. I am to add that you are at liberty to publish this letter."

..

FROM old, men have been in search for the philosopher's stone, and though many have suffered in the pursuit, the stone is yet *non est*. If baser metals cannot be changed into gold, experts are not wanting to reverse the process. Just now it is reported, in transmission through the post, from Peshawar to Kurrachee, 42 tolas of gold were transmuted to iron.

..

The Barwani correspondent of the *Eastern Herald* writes:—

"Megwal is one of the lowest castes among the Hindus of this side of India. They lead a wild and savage life. They maintain large herds of cows or she-buffaloes and sell their *Ghee*. They prefer to live in villages, where grass and fodder can be obtained in great abundance and at a low cost. At Sewai, a village in Rajpore Pergana, a boy of the above caste was put in prison by the Dewan of the State in a case which was brought against him by a wealthy person in the Holkar territory. His aged mother, a poor and helpless woman, sought to go to the Dewan and to bring her son's case into the notice of him. But as according to the strict order of the present Dewan no one is allowed to have a free access to him (which was neither the case with any of his predecessors nor is even with the Maha Rana of the State) except a certain number of men who are his favorites, so she was unheard; so much so, five months passed, she neither got access to the Dewan nor her son was tried. She was utterly disappointed to receive justice from the hands of the state, and patiently waited the arrival of the Political Agent. When the latter arrived here, she kindled two torches in the broad day-light and holding them in her hands went to the Bungalow of the Political Agent (as if to enlighten him in the dark and gloomy state of affairs) who asked her the cause of this extraordinary act and was sorry to learn that the poor sufferer remained in jail for five months without being tried. He took pity upon the poor mother and her son and at once ordered for his setting at liberty. Such are the ways in which justice is administered here. I will also mention hereafter how many persons fell victim to the new administration in similar manner. God may help us."

MR. E. G. COLVIN, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor, is Gazetted 3 months' leave from the 10th instant. Captain W. C. W. Rawlinson, Aide-de-Camp officiates as Private Secretary.

..

THE Survey Department is engaged on a crop map of India. The first of the series will deal with sugarcane, shewing the area under cultivation.

..

SIMLA is already suffering from scarcity of water.

..

ON Wednesday week at 8 in the evening, the Port Commissioners made over to the Police an unclaimed tin box found at the Jugganath Ghat. It was covered over with gunny and carefully tied with rope. On examination, it was found to contain the dead body of a man with his legs doubled up, hands tied down and the head pressed in and securely tied. There was also a bottle of mixture prepared by R. Scott Thompson & Co., for the Superintendent of the Doveton Institution for Young Ladies. For once, the Police were equal to the occasion. The body was identified as that of a thatcher Sheikh Hurri and three *khansamas* of the said Institution—Meher Ali, Bhutto and Jorab—have been placed on their trial before the Chief Magistrate. The Coroner's Inquest charges these with culpable homicide. The medical evidence recorded runs thus:—

"Dr. Mackenzie, Police Surgeon, deposed to having, on the 5th instant, examined the body of a Native male adult, aged about 30 years, identified as that of the deceased, Sheikh Harri. The body was well nourished, and I discovered abrasions on the left forearm, back of the right forearm, back of the right wrist, inner sides of the left and right knees, right cheek, right side of the face, left temple, and left shoulder. These abrasions may have been caused after death. There were also circular marks of a cord on the lower part of the neck, sides, and back. There were three abrasions on the lips, and the tongue was protruding between the teeth. In my opinion, deceased died of asphyxia, or suffocation due to strangulation. There were three cords round the neck of the deceased—one of jute, the other of hemp, and the third of cloth. The last was tied lightly round the neck, and was below the other cords, was passed over it from the back of the neck, and went on to the arms. The third cord was made of soft cloth, with two twists, afterwards doubled and twisted tightly round the lower part of the neck, tied at the back with a double knot."

We hope the police will unravel the whole mystery.

..

THE following appears in the *Morning Post*:—

"The following petition is about to be filed in the N.-W.-P. High Court, Matrimonial Jurisdiction:—Ellen Prinn, falsely called Ellen Hindhaugh, *versus* William Hindhaugh. The petition of Ellen Prinn, falsely called Ellen Hindhaugh, sheweth: That on the 30th day of December, 1871, your petitioner, then a spinster of 19 years of age, was married in fact (but illegally) to William Jackson Hindhaugh, then a widower of 18 years of age, at St. James' Church at Calcutta; that from the said 30th of December 1871, until the month of March, 1888, your petitioner lived and cohabited with the said William Jackson Hindhaugh at divers places in British India, and particularly at Sutna; that at the time of the performance of the said ceremony of marriage, the said William Jackson Hindhaugh was a widower, having previously on the 22nd day of December, 1868, married Mary Ann Prinn, who died previous to the performance of the said ceremony of marriage between your petitioner and the said respondent. That the said Mary Ann Prinn was the sister of your petitioner; that there is no collusion or connivance between your petitioner and the said William Jackson Hindhaugh with respect to the subject of this suit. Your petitioner therefore prays that this Hon. Court will be pleased to declare that the said marriage in fact (but illegally) executed as aforesaid between your petitioner and the said William Jackson Hindhaugh is null and void, and to decree that the said William Jackson Hindhaugh pay the costs of, and incident to, this suit, and that your petitioner have such other and further relief in the premises as to this Hon. Court may seem meet. I, Ellen Prinn, falsely called Ellen Hindhaugh, the petitioner named in the above petition, do declare that what is stated therein is true to the best of my information and belief."

..

UNLESS the *Indian Mirror* has been hoaxed—and our contemporary is so easy of faith as to assume everything on trust, even to religion, and it is nothing if not serious—by "a gentleman who was present at the Town Hall on the occasion of the presentation of the farewell address to Lord Dufferin," our contemporary has made a notable discovery, namely, that the gathering at the *Conversazione* in honor of Lord Dufferin consisted chiefly of *khits* and *barwarchis*.

There was, no doubt, a necessary contingent of native waiters at table below, but they had no occasion to go upstairs where the party was held. We strongly suspect the *Mirror's* informant a *khil* or a *chie* who went on the chance of *ticca* employment and was disappointed and blackguarded the whole business to the ears congenial of the *Mirror*.

Next time we may hear that the party consisted of all Africans, there having been the West Indian volunteers in attendance.

CANON Knox-Little, in the course of an address before the members of the English Church Union at Oxford, inveighed against the moustache for men in holy orders. Speaking on the important functions and duties of the sacred office, he said:—'I have lately seen a number of moustached clergymen, who reminded me of second-hand cavalry officers. I admire a cavalry officer, and I admire a priest, but I do not like a cross between them.' Thereupon 'A moustached Clergyman,' retorts in the *Standard*:—

"I have lately seen a number of clean-shaven clergymen, who reminded me of women. I admire a woman, and I admire a clergyman, but do not like a cross between them."

On this the Roman Catholic *Rock* remarks—

"For our part, we utterly fail to discern what influence—mischievous or otherwise—the natural growth of hair on a man's face can have on an earnest life in the service of God."

The ladies know better. The same innocent continues—

"In becoming ministers of Christ nothing could be more contrary to the spirit of His teaching or more opposed to common sense than for clergymen to cease to be men."

What then is the meaning of the celibacy of the priesthood?

SOME sensation was caused in town on Thursday by the total collapse of the house No. 11 Kyd Street adjoining the Roberts' Memorial College. That building was a three-storied one, and was under repairs. Workmen were at work, and other persons were living there at the time. The Police were at work on receipt of the notice. Their act of succour commenced with the pulling down of the east boundary wall which alone withstood the general fall. Some bodies were discovered wounded and dead, and the place is still a large heap of ruins, maybe covering yet undiscovered unfortunates. The Coroner's Inquest is anxiously looked to for the cause of this disaster.

ACCORDING to Sir Evelyn Baring, the finances of Egypt are very reassuring. There was financial equilibrium in the past year. The prospects of the present are more encouraging.

IT is reported that a few days ago an attempt was made on the life of Sardar Nur Muhammad Khan, the Governor of Kandahar. It appears that a shot was fired at him from a distance while he was riding. It missed him, but killed his camel. The offender has not been discovered, but it is believed that he was a soldier of the Hazari Regiment now stationed at Kandahar.

Some particulars have been received of the recent attack on the Kashmir fort of Numal, to the north of Gilgit, by the Rajas of Hunza and Nagar. The latter ejected the Kashmir picket from the post of Chaprol in January last, and entered into negotiations with the Gilgit authorities with a view to being allowed to retain peaceable possession. The negotiations breaking down, the tribesmen, over 2,000 in numbers, advanced on Numal, about half way between Chaprol and Gilgit. Numal had meanwhile been reinforced, and was able to stand a siege. On the 17th March, the garrison made a sortie headed by Colonel Makhani Singh. They succeeded in driving off the attacking party, but the Kashmiri Colonel and eleven men were killed and several wounded. The tribesmen are said to have lost heavily. Fresh reinforcements have now reached Numal, but no attempt has yet been made to re-occupy Chaprol, which is still in the hands of the Hunza and Nagar people. 1,000 Regulars and 500 Militia are being sent up from Srinagar.

The escort of Major Vate's delimitation party met with a good reception at Kandahar on the 30th March, and reached Quetta all well on the 7th April.—Press Commissioner.

THE Home remittances during the year 1887-88 amounted to £15,396,500 or £146,500 more than the Budget estimate.

THE Superior French Court has set aside the order on the son-in-law Wilson, in connection with the Decoration scandals.

Holloway's Pills.—Enfeebled existence.—This medicine embraces every attribute required in a general and domestic remedy. It overturns the foundations of disease laid by defective food and impure air. In obstructions or congestions of the liver, lungs, bowels, or any other organs, these Pills are especially serviceable and eminently successful. They should be kept in readiness in every family, being a medicine of incomparable utility for young persons, especially those of feeble constitutions. They never cause pain or irritate the most sensitive nerves or most tender bowels. Holloway's Pills are the best known purifiers of the blood, the most active promoters of absorption and secretion, whereby all poisonous and obnoxious particles are removed from both solids and fluids.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

MRS. ANNA KINGFORD, M. D., the vegetarian propagandist, has died at the age of 42—no victim, we hope, to her diet.

IN Mr. J. Gotter Morison, London literary society has lost one of its lights. He was probably the best writer in the Positivist camp, which contains such masters as Frederic Harrison.

WE can well believe that a great sensation has been caused among the Jains of Lucknow by the refusal of Mr. Wells, the City Magistrate, to allow their "Rath" procession to pass through the Chowk. According to Mr. Wells, there is not the slightest reason why the procession should be allowed to proceed through the Chowk to the annoyance and exasperation of the Hindus. The Jain cause in the city has been defended with considerable spirit, in the columns of the local *Express*. The writer says:—

"The first principle of Jainism is to propagate its truths and teachings. As soon as a person reaches the Jain ideal of salvation, it becomes his duty to preach the truths he has embraced. Now, Sir, this propagation is effected by means of processions in which the idol is carried and the earnestness of its worshippers displayed. Publicity is thus given to the existence of Jainism and the zeal of its adherents. The Chowk being the most populous part of the city it is therefore the most fitting place for public processions of this sort."

This is probably the first time, after many, many centuries, that the Jains, who have occupied in India the position of the Jews in Europe, have held such language. Scorned and repressed by Hindu and Moslem alike, they were glad enough to be let alone, even with a slap if necessary. Now at length they feel that they can take up a loftier attitude. It is not enough that they can worship according to their faith unmolested—they must preach too and extend their religion if possible. This is a new development, but a legitimate change effected by the present regime. We cannot blame the Jains. In fact, they feel that they are British subjects. But this very progress introduces a new complication and makes administration more than ever difficult.

The champion goes into more specific detail:—

"Because the liberty now asked for has been extended to members of other religious communities. The Tazias were allowed to proceed in spite of all the opposition of the Hindus. The 'Ramlilas' were held and their processions carried when the Mahomedans bitterly complained and even fought against it. The Jains only ask for that religious toleration which has been granted to both Hindus and Mahomedans. They always manifest toleration towards other religions and it is only fair that a similar spirit be shewn towards them."

It is not easy to decide between the pretensions of rival sects. At any rate, Mr. Wells has lately had the rare opportunity of personal conference on the subject with both the provincial Governor and the Governor-General.

AT call of the Sheriff on a largely signed Requisition, the rate-payers met in force yesterday at the Town Hall, to express their dissatisfaction at the treatment of the Municipal Bill at the hands of the local Legislature. It was not only a large but also a respectable gathering. Thanks to the example of firmness of the late Dufferin Demonstrators, the School Boy nuisance at public meetings has abated. If the boys were not excluded, their seats were more distantly arranged, the front chairs being reserved for their elders and seniors. The meeting was illgot up, but orderly and well conducted. The audience was all attentive without visible signs of impatience at either the inaudibleness or the active dullness of the speakers. The earnestness of the meeting may be gathered from the fact, that it stood the heat of the sun and the gas for three mortal hours. It was essentially a native meeting, but not of Baboos only. There were Mahomedans and Armenians. The Europeans were conspicuous by their absence. Almost all the principal native families were represented. The Chair was taken by Maharaja Narendra Krishna. We give the Resolutions below.

I. That this Meeting desires to place on record the sense of its regret at the disregard of public opinion which has hitherto marked the progress of the Calcutta Municipal Bill through the Bengal Legislative Council, and earnestly prays that His Honor the President in Council will be pleased to allow the reconsideration of the sections already passed by the Council.

Proposed by Prince Ferokh Shah.

Seconded by Coomarr Devendra Mullick and supported by Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee.

II. That in the absence of any proper enquiry as to the results likely to ensue from the proposed amalgamation and without new sources of

income, this Meeting apprehends that the scheme will prove injurious both to the Town and the Suburbs, and that the Government having been pledged to the scheme on condition only of certain inconsiderable items of revenue including the duty on petroleum being made over to the new Corporation to fulfil the purpose thereof, this Meeting desires to protest against the project which without a very considerable addition of revenue will fail to fulfil the important sanitary ends in view and is likely to saddle the Town and the Suburbs with additional taxation.

Proposed by Mr. J. G. Apar.

Seconded by Baboo Ashutosh Biswas.

III. That having regard to the success of the elective system in the Calcutta Municipality, this Meeting is of opinion that the time has come when a further extension of the same principle may with advantage be made and the proportion of Commissioners elected by the wards raised from two-thirds to three-fourths of the entire body of Commissioners.

Proposed by Raja Poorna Chunder Singh.

Seconded by Mr. Braunfield.

IV. That having regard to the success of non-official chairmen in Mofussil Municipalities and the further extension of this principle by the recent orders of the Bengal Government, this Meeting is of opinion that the Municipality of the first city in India may be allowed the right to nominate its own chairman under such restrictions and safeguards as the Government may choose to impose including the power of vetoing any obviously improper election.

Proposed by Kumar Benoykrishna.

Seconded by Baboo Kalyacharn Banerjee.

V. That this Meeting views with alarm the changes which have been introduced into the section relating to the control to be exercised by Government, investing the Government with undefined and unlimited powers over the Corporation and empowering it upon mere complaint without enquiry by a regularly constituted Commission as at present, or giving an opportunity to defend its proceedings, to direct the Corporation to undertake works which the Government may think necessary and for which the expenses will have to be met out of Municipal funds.

Proposed by Mr. M. P. Gasper.

Seconded by Baboo Gonesh Chundra Chundra, and supported by Khan Bahadoor Serajul Islam.

VI. That this Meeting views with alarm some of the changes which have been introduced into the Bill which mark an important departure from the principles of the existing law, and while referring for a fuller exposition of them to the Memorial, the Meeting will beg leave to protest against the following innovations amongst others as being dangerous in their character and likely to be attended with serious hardship:—

(1) Section 122 which imposes a five per cent. rate estimated upon the cost of dwelling-houses.

(2) Building regulations which invest the executive of the Corporation with power to refuse or permit the erection of buildings.

(3) Regulations relating to huts which will entail grievous hardship upon owners.

(4) Sanitary sections which will invest the executive with extensive powers to declare buildings to be overcrowded or unfit for habitation and to remove persons to hospital without their consent.

(5) The provisions under which it is proposed to reduce the size of the ferrule for the supply of water.

Proposed by Baboo Jodoolal Mullick.

Seconded by Baboo Amrita Nath Mitter.

VII. That the following Memorial be adopted and that the gentlemen named below (list is omitted here) be appointed to wait in deputation upon His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor with the Memorial.

Proposed by Baboo Saligram.

Seconded by Mr. R. D. Mehta.

The weakness of the demonstration lay in having anything to do with discredited political agitators. The two Europeans who took part gave something worth listening to. Indeed, Mr. Braunfield was particularly lively. Coomar Devendra is always sensible. Baboo Jodoolal, with his *penchant* for personalities, made a good point against the proposition to assess house property according to cost, finishing with describing Sir Henry Harrison as the Aurungzebe of civic Government. With this exception, the native speakers were all bores, great and small, new and old. The Banerjee was egotistical and interminable. Baboo Kali Charan expended his whole force on "your distinguished representative in Council" the Hon'ble Kally Nath Mitter. No one had a word for poor Dr. Gurudas, who has led the opposition in the Legislature. Nor were the parts happily allotted. Surely, more experienced men ought to have moved the important propositions demanding the extension of the elective element and the concession of an elected chairman. The very Resolutions were loosely worded and hurriedly strung together. These are, besides, too many of them for any useful purpose or effect.

Making every allowance, however, the importance of the meeting cannot be gainsaid. It was a real representation of the town, and the Government and the Legislature will not be wise in disregarding it, so far at least as the practical grievances are concerned.

The protest comes too late, it may be said. Some of the clauses objected to have already been considered and passed. But the Council itself has not been regular in its treatment of the Bill.

WITH the new year, the Calcutta Police has developed new powers of interference and petty and irksome sources of revenue. As if higher offences need no vigilance of the Police, miscellaneous offences outside the Penal Code, those under the Police and other Acts, now engage the minute attention of the Constabulary Force. Special returns have to be submitted for arrests under the Police, Hackney Carriage and other Acts, and prosecutions made before proper tribunals. If the course is extremely irritating to Her Majesty's peaceful subjects, it is welcome to the authorities for the revenue it promises. We are afraid the Police exceed their authority in making arrests under the Hackney Carriage Act. Not only carriages with their fare are marched off to the Police Station, but there the necessary enquiries are made and entered in the books and the excess passengers told to find their own way. The outrage is completed when the occupants of the Zenana happen to be such victims. Many of the Police officers, we may be sure, feel the enormity of the proceeding, but they are bound by orders to do this violence to native feeling and honor. It is curious that while the Imperial Legislature has secured the women of India freedom from arrest for the civil jail, it should be necessary to humiliate them in other ways. If the object is to enforce the license, the drivers may be prosecuted for breach of the law without inconveniencing or humiliating the passengers. Loaded carts are, we believe, saved from arrest under the Municipal Act. Is human freight less worthy of reverence? We hope Mr. Lambert will slacken his zeal, at least as regards the Zenana fare. Of course, if the new policy is to raise a revenue, our cry will be in vain. But surely Government, after undertaking to find the cost of the Police, and agreeing to divert the Police rate to sanitary purposes, should not descend to these low tricks for raising the wind.

COOCH BEHAR has come back to India and gone home to Cooch Behar itself. A number of native gentlemen, mostly Brahmos, were present at the Howrah Railway station to welcome him back from his exhausting European tour. They were well punished for their officiousness. The Maharaja was busy with his portmanteaus, unmindful of the presence of those who had forced themselves on him to do him honor. Poor Raja Peary Mohan Mookerjee, who had come all the way from Uttarpara for the purpose, realised to his cost the difference between an English nobleman as Viceroy and an Indian Raja with European polish. The Maharaja walked up and down the platform dreamily, unconscious of his votaries. By dint of effort of a handful of a Dewan Kalikadas Dutt, Raja Mookerjee was barely recognised. Nawab Abdool Luteef saved himself by his own address. The rest were nowhere. In the face of this, some of the morning papers published a false account of the landing in which the Maharaja is represented as shaking every one cordially by the hand and speaking with all who had taken the trouble to come and receive him. The gathering at Sealdah to receive the Bara Thakur of Tipperah, was more numerous and influential, while the conduct of that Prince—a mere boy—sent back every one pleased. The eldest son of his deceased father-in-law welcomed the Maharaja with an Evening Party in his honor. Notwithstanding the scene on the railway station, it was well attended. The Maharaja came between his European leaders whose presence seems to check his soul. In spite of the adverse element, some of His Highness' well-wishers, towards the end, drew the Maharaja and the remaining native guests together, and the Prince had begun to be agreeable, when the whole prospect was marred by the unfortunate presence of the Mahatma of the *Mirror*. This gentleman introduced into the company his wild manners and his rabid politics. He bullied the late Keshub Chunder Sen's younger brother—the most intellectual Sen now living, and as modest as he is capable—for the moderation of his views, and even catechised the Maharaja as to what he thought of Lord Dufferin and the demonstrations in the Viceroy's honor. A wild boar introduced into that party could not have disturbed it more than this patent bore. The Maharaja then left for his own territory. If the official or officious account in the Calcutta papers is to be believed, Cooch Behar was all welcome. The people there seem still to retain their old love for their Maharaja, and they received Nripendra Naryan Bhoop with all enthusiasm and loud jubilation.

There was a Durbar. It was held at the new hall erected for the purpose. In honor of the occasion, it is said revenue of a lac of rupees was remitted, rent-free lands granted to 73 Brahmins, life-scholarships founded for 8 Brahmins, nine prisoners released, and titles conferred.

There were other entertainments—a State Evening Party and what else we are not told. The Maharaja summers at Darjeeling.

WE sincerely regret that so promising a journal as the new *Advocate* of Lucknow should have so early in its career so deeply committed itself. We have watched with keen personal interest the development of this paper, and we have derived no ordinary pleasure in seeing it improve so wonderfully within so short a time. It is already a power in the land, and it deserves to be for its sterling merit. It is written with a mature ability which has most agreeably surprised us. What a pity that, under a mistaken sense of duty, it should have ranged itself on the side of the Irreconcilables! It is rather fond of the hackneyed Latin exclamation *O tempora! O mores!* Times and manners are indeed changed when the approach of the Viceroy to its city did not impose some decent restriction on the expression of unpleasant opinion—to say nothing of grace where all is gracelessness itself. It is not many years since Lucknow was the capital of an Oriental despotism: the memory of that day must still be alive there. These publicists no doubt show their appreciation of the privilege of British subjects. They might at least remember that the Viceroy of India has some share in the maintenance of that boon. Above all, they should never forget that for us, at any rate, the glorious Liberty of the Press is an indulgence.

The only reassuring reflection is that the *Advocate* is in the beginning of its journey and will learn better manners as it proceeds.

THE Governor-General in Council has conferred on the eldest of the surviving sons of His late Majesty Wajid Ali Shah of Oudh the headship of the family. We give in parallel columns the allowances drawn by the members of the family during his Majesty's life time and the pensions now fixed on them.

Prince Kamar Kadr ...	...	...	300	3,000
„ Asman Jah ...	...	...	150	1,150
„ Janya Ali ...	...	...	300	850
And other sons, each ...	...	...	150	500
Nawab Akhtar Mahal ...	...	...	500	600
„ Khas Mahal ...	...	...	600	600
Prince Jehan Kadar's wife ...	...	...	110	600
Other daughters, each ...	...	...	110	150

MR. ROBERT TURNBULL is the luckiest man going. Even superior merit does not often meet with such a measure of reward all round as friend "Bobby" has achieved. He has served many masters, through many years, without an angry word. In fact, he has performed the impossible feat of pleasing everybody—Hindu, Mahomedan, Jain, Jew, Parsee, Armenian, Greek, English, Scotch, Irish, French, or German. No wonder he has had the unique fortune to obtain a pension above the rate of his pay. No less wonderful, he, a mere Secretary to the Municipality, has had a public memorial voted him—an honor denied to any member or even head of the Corporation. And last not least, he has had his portrait for the Town Hall painted by no less an artist than Mr. J. Archer.

The other day we paid a visit to Mr. Archer's studio after the work was finished, and we were fairly astonished at the result. The portrait is flattering no doubt; professional art, even the more mechanical art of photography, must, as a condition of existence, be flattering, and monumental art has need to be flattering where the subject is not adequately blessed by Nature; but it is the flattery of genius. It does not overlay the characteristic expression: it only takes that expression at its best. You recognise your Bobby at once. Not the every-day Bobby who seems to scowl on you for all his *bonhomie*, but Bobby fresh and blooming and when most charming. How the artist manages to preserve the identity of his subject is a wonder. It is the privilege of genius. Herein lies all the difference between good painters and better painters.

THE Archers leave town to-morrow morning *en route* to the South. They will summer at Ootacamund till the end of June. Next month they repair to Poona, whence they go to Bombay to pass the next cold weather. We hope they will be called back to Calcutta, if only to paint the great portrait of Lady Dufferin for the Town Hall, which has lately been voted in public meeting. The presence of Mr. Archer is very opportune in the public interest. Such a commission ought not to be

given to an inferior local artist. Neither ought it to be denied to a great artist who happens to be on the spot. Such a refusal not only involves an unmerited slur but also is detrimental to the cause of art in the country. It is a prohibition to artists of repute to come to the East. Mr. Archer has already painted Lady Dufferin so well that he may be expected to do even better.

THE triumph of administration of criminal justice of the Government of India during the year, has just been achieved at Mhow. It consists in the execution of not simply firm but relentless justice on an old offender. It was a grand criminal that the Government has brought to book. But though his greatness, at once in age, in race and in person, was obvious, he was scarcely great enough for all the ado of the great Government of India. For many good people presume to doubt whether he had a soul to be damned, though certainly he had enough body to receive the simultaneous kick of dozens of men. In fact, his bulk must have embarrassed a good deal our all-knowing Bureaucracy. Nay, it led to a distinct departure in the practice of criminal judicature. The law lays down hanging by the neck till death takes place, as the sole mode of executing capital punishment throughout the Empire. But the great Government could not undertake the responsibility of hanging the great prisoner. He was too great for being despatched in that petty undignified way. There were no gallows to match: there was no hangman to put the nouse round the convict's neck: a syndicate of all the Calcrafts in the land would have been unequal to the work. It would have been necessary to import a hangman from Brobdingnag or to pray to almighty God for a special giant of the craft—of the Calcrafts, to carry out the sentence. The local officers could but report the difficulty and await orders. The Government proceeded in its usual thorough-going way, calling for help upon its advisers, legal and illegal. We do not know what escape the ingenious Advocate-General, who lately muzzled a huge mammal of the Civil Service become *must* from a threatened latrine, proposed. Be that as it may, the Government referred points and received suggestions and then minuted and minuted, till it realised the necessity of the situation, and finally resolved to keep the ordinary practice in abeyance, and ordered accordingly. And, accordingly, the venerable, if not venerated, prisoner was executed by shooting.

The prisoner was an old servant of Government in the Army, in the Transport Department. He had done good service in his day, and had every reason to expect to pass what little span of life remained to him in peace and comfort, at the bounty of a grateful Government. He had fully earned his right to a liberal special pension. He might be regarded as one of the pillars of the Empire, having borne on his Atlantean shoulders the weight of many camps and carried endless equipage and furniture and provisions. He was certainly one of the band of heroes who extended British sway in Northern and Central India, having shared the brunt of war with Lake and Combermere. If now, when he had descended into the vale of years, he showed some senile freaks, he might well hope for consideration for his grey hairs and his past services. But herein Government is too machine-like, exacting and uniform in action. The hero of Army Transport has been in a rather chronic state of *must*, and he had had the ill luck, under this influence, to kill a man at Poona, about two years ago. He might still have received fair play, had his civil and military neighbours been more manly. Unfortunately for him, the humans about him proved poltroons, and of course ungenerous foes. They were terribly alarmed at the proximity of the veteran quadruped. Hence the complaint to the Viceroy and the order for his execution. The poor fellow has been very harshly treated. There was no pretence for taking his life. Neither law nor equity cried for his blood, seeing that he was not in his senses. The utmost that the safety of the public required, was to restrict his liberty. But there was no counsel to plead the prisoner's cause. The whole proceeding was *ex parte*. And there was no good Vaishnav nor Buddhist in the Government to put in a word for him or warn his colleagues against the consequences of useless slaughter.

So firm were our great functionaries in their evil resolve, that they would grant no reprieve. The Maharaja Holkar and the Maharaja of Rutlam, like good Hindu princes, offered to save the great veteran at any cost, but to no purpose. The Government of India was determined to execute vengeance on the mad murderous brute. And so he was shot in great state.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1888.

THE MORBHANJ STATE :

A TYPICAL CASE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Englishman*, who has been eating the Raj's sheep and chicken and eggs and drinking its wines at the table of Manager H. P. Wyllie or Engineer Morrow, is repaying the obligation by praising the European servants at the expense of the former native management of Morbhanj, the chief of the Tributary Mahals of Orissa. He is quite right in saying that there are few places in India less known even by name, than Baripada, the capital of this semi-independent state, a city of no antiquity on the left bank of the Burabalung—a small hill stream—some 32 miles North-West of Balasore :—

"The town contains a most imposing Raj Bari, the residence of the Raja's family, numerous temples on a grand scale, two splendid tanks, and an immense lake constructed by the present Manager, a circuit house, cutchery, record offices, jail, school, hospital, and several new pukka shops in the main street. Five years ago, I am told, there was only one miserable little shop in the whole town, which now possesses a Municipality that does its work thoroughly and well, Baripada being the brightest and cleanest little native town I have ever seen in India. When it is considered that there are only two European gentlemen in the place, namely, the Manager, Mr. H. P. Wyllie, and his Engineer, Mr. Morrow, this speaks volumes."

Yes, "volumes" in all directions. A single European introduced for the first time into a Hindu town, necessarily causes many changes in it. Strange articles and unknown luxuries make their appearance. Food that no Mussulman will touch and food that no Hindu can contemplate without horror, has to be provided for the new ogre. Coarse thick stuffs, more fit for covering floors than for human wear, make their entry and debase the people's taste. Of course, the Saheb wants one or more native tailor trained in a peculiar school. The stiff-limbed stranger can not squat on the floor, and so furniture on stands are in requisition for him to sit upon. Silver plate is too costly and native brass or bell metal is too nasty for him to eat off. Hence frail crockery and glass-ware and earthen-ware of all kinds. One queer piece of furniture combining wood-work and earthenware is introduced which puzzles the wisest heads in the Raj. And well that it is so, for every porter or *coolie* or beggar in the State would flee from its neighbourhood directly its use was discovered. As he requires special tailors and special valets, so he wants special cooks and scullions and waiters and special nightmen. Accordingly, the scum of the native population of our great cities and stations, who serve Europeans in menial capacities, are established in the heart of the Indian Arcadia. So much is necessary for the comfort of a single Saheb, with or without the complement of a Sahebesse. A colony usually follows him, and a town starts up wherever he is settled. At Baripada, we see there are a couple of such fixtures, with families perhaps into the bargain. What wonder that a market should have sprung up where five years ago none existed! Besides, one lucky man draws another. Wyllie wanted a companion as much as the state required an Engineer, and so the Morrow of progress dawned upon Morbhanj. Between them, the two made themselves comfortable—making roads for their drive, improving the health of their neighbourhood and the prospect around, and opening the way to the woods for hunting, and so on. By the earliest opportunity,

they were bound to repay their patrons by inviting them to shoot and enjoy themselves at the expense of the Raj. Here is another great step in civilization. More houses are required and more furniture and stores and provisions than ever, and altogether a grand stimulus is given to trade and activity in general. We are not old fogeys enough to see no improving element in all this. All, however, is not gold that glitters. And our taste for such good as we recognise, is sadly spoiled by our sense of the cost.

A native population in the heart of the backwoods, does not require a great dry goods mart or a row of shops of European articles. There are not even many public handicraftsmen, artisans and artists at a native capital, for the simple fact that the Raj keeps these in pay, and the whole country derives the benefit of maintaining them. The people, when they really wait, get their service for nothing or for a trifle. Native ways are not all charming, but they have their special recommendations. They are, beyond question, eminently suited to the people. Hence the anomaly of native weariness under the improving Briton.

It is amusing to see the airs assumed by our British engineers and officers after laying out a few streets or erecting a few trumpery bungalows. If the natives are so worthless, who built the great Indian cities? who have filled the country with structures which stand after centuries to inspire the wonder of beholders? Even in Orissa, Bhubaneswar and the rock caves and the sun obelisk attest the constructive genius of the natives. In Morbhanj itself, who built the imposing Rajbari?

Nor is that all. In the following passage, our contemporary's correspondent gives passing testimony to the merits of native rule :—

"Baripada is approached from the north by the Midnapur Road, a nicely kept and picturesque highway made by the late Maharaja, from the south by the Balasore Road, equally picturesque and also constructed by the late Maharaja. Within the last three or four years the Manager has also constructed a fine road, partly over the mountains from Baripada to Bamungatti, one of the largest towns in the north-west of Morbhanj. These roads, metalled with laterite, are all in splendid repair, and cross the most beautiful young sal forests, which are now being carefully preserved by the State."

That evidence is all the more valuable that it comes from a writer pledged to support the present European management. After that, we may well ask Government to reconsider its policy in pitchforking *prolégés* of its own kith and kin on an unoffending native state. Why should the indigenous administration be superseded? Morbhanj under his late Maharaja was a model of a well-governed Indian principality. After his death, things were done under British authority or in the British name for which Britons must ever blush. The crowning iniquity was to deprive the State of its own management. And now here, as in Cooch Behar, the young Chief is being carefully educated so as to acquiesce in the wrong and to continue to leave it in the hands of strangers. This, indeed, is Progress—with a vengeance!

HYDERABAD.

THE accession of Mr. Arthur Howell to the Residential Musnud of Hyderabad, is an event of good augury. The change is opportune. A change had long been required, but a Civil Servant, even when found wanting, is not easily displaced. All power had however passed out of the Residency. The Residency will now be itself, at any rate. Mr. Howell is as good a scholar as his predecessor,

but he comes with an unsullied reputation, public and private. Let not our native friends take fright at the name. Mr. Howell was not the famous *Britannicus* of the *Englishman*. He was in the Home Secretariat of Lord Lawrence, whose kindness for the masses he shared, but was unaccountably shelved in Central India. He now emerges to achieve the fame his talents are capable of securing. It is a difficult sphere to which he has been called, and perhaps it may somewhat help him if we pass in rapid review the more prominent personalities with which he will come in contact.

Hyderabad politics can be likened to nothing so much as to a "duleelah" a kootni—who has a different face for different people and always entices the novice and new-comer to his destruction. Few can resist her blandishments or escape from her meshes. Europeans and Natives alike she can count among her victims. Many a Resident has lost his head and his reputation.

To descend to particulars. Colonel Marshall was prime favorite with duleelah for a few months—but, like the rest of them, his days of power are over. He is a good man—one of the very few Englishmen really capable of assimilating with the people of the place and understanding its ways. But he made the mistake of beginning his career with a contempt for the intriguers of Hyderabad and an overweening confidence in himself, and the result is that these despised intriguers have cooked his goose for him as nearly as possible. If his position were not so strong as it is, they would have finished him by this time.

There is only one man who has kept his head cool throughout and risen superior to every emergency, removing obstacles, overcoming intrigue with superior intrigue, cunning with greater cunning, and getting the better of friends and enemies alike—and that man is Mr. Madhi Ali (Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk Bahadur) the cleverest man by far and the astutest. His personal ambition is absorbing. He would sacrifice anything or anybody to his ambition—whether it is a friend who is in the way or any state or national interest—it is just the same to him—down goes he or it as the case may be, and our friend is seen next moment standing by the corpse of his victim, with one of his bland smiles on his face as if nothing had happened, and as if he had just put the finishing stroke to one of the most righteous pieces of work.

His secret ambition is to be some day Minister of the place, and he has already paved two-thirds, if not three-fourths, of the way to it.

The present Minister is the best man that could have been selected for the place on the spot. He is slow, but he is firm and not easily intimidated. He is thoroughly loyal to his master and is free from the slightest taint or tinge of personal aims. He is a cautious man and is rather strong in the organ by which many of his birth and position are reputed to be led. He is very careful in money matters—rather suspicious of character—a distinct advantage in a place like Hyderabad. His administration has so far been successful—there has been no *contretemps* of the kind that were rife under the *régime* of his predecessor. His Highness trusts and honors him, and the Imperial Government have just emphasised their sense of the last fact and at the same time marked their approbation of the man himself by Knighting him. He is very conservative which is a distinct advantage, as the late *régime*, which was really Mahdi Ali's, gave Hyderabad no rest, so many and quick-succeeding were the changes that were

made. There is rest now at last, and we hope there shall be no more changes for sometime to come. Even changes for the better are sometimes harrassing.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

BABER.

THERE is, perhaps, no period in the history of India which is more interesting than the period occupied by the reign of the House of Timour, miscalled, both in India and by foreigners, the Mogul dynasty, for no one had a greater aversion for the Moguls than Baber, the founder of the empire which this race of princes built up in India, though it is true his mother was a Mogul, the daughter of a Mogul prince of some eminence. The empire the princes of this House built up, was great, and India rose to the highest pitch of prosperity during the rule of succeeding Kings of this line. The pinnacle of prosperity and fame was attained under the wise and able rule of the great Akbar—while the marvellous wealth and magnificence of pre-British India was displayed under Shah Jehan.

India is fittingly called the jewel in the Crown of Britain, but alas! it is a jewel much of whose lustre has been dimmed. Yet India is reviving after a lethargic period. The quickening process has begun. She is manifesting life-movements from one end of her great continent to the other. India possibly will yet arise, and her glory be more resplendent. Her new glory, however, will be distinct from her former glory. Barbaric pomp and splendour will have no part or lot in her future greatness. Her people's eyes are opening to what constitutes true glory and greatness; they are awakening out of a lengthened sleep; they are stretching forth their hands towards the light—ethical and intellectual light—such light as brings out the characteristics of a high state of civilisation—that moral curb over the promptings and impulses of the natural heart.

The civilisation of the East must always differ from that of the West, though the basis of both be laid on the same foundation. Eastern civilisation must always be more soft and silken than that of the West. The Eastern peoples are so fearful of giving offence; so anxiously polite; so desirous of avoiding wounding the susceptibilities of others, that their civilisation, though a facsimile of that of Europe, must always abound in more of society shams—more of social fibs. The rugged vein running through English civilisation, when copied in their manners by the youth of India, more especially Young Bengal, does not show well. It is a manifest aping.

When will this day of India's future glory dawn? The young men, the men in their prime, and the old men, may help to hasten it, by patient and faithful service rendered in their day and generation—by setting themselves laboriously to study the true meaning of patriotism. This much-abused expression should be studied in the light of the history, past and present, of the nations of the earth. Patriotism studied under such a light, will doubtless cause the head of many a blatant Indian youth to be bowed in shame and self-contrition. The men of to-day may help forward the aspirations of India, but neither the youth, nor the strong man, nor the aged, of this day, will ever see the revived glory of India. They must be gathered to their fathers, yea, and some generations after them must come and go before that eventful time. Nations are not born to the highest moral freedom in a day. Stages of transition are always slow. It seems to be fundamental law of the Divine Ruler of the earth, that storms precede calm; and the more forcible the storm, the deeper the thick darkness, the more still will be the after calm, and the more brilliant the light. That man is perfected by suffering, is a law of the Creator. The beneficence of this law can only be learnt from experience. Nations as well as individuals are benefitted and strengthened by the fiery trial of afflictions. Sorrow and suffering must be the germ of joy. The mourners are the only ones who can be comforted.

The searchers after truth often bow the head through manifold mistakes—they sometimes take tinsel for gold, and a glittering glass for a gem—but it is only these bowed and humiliated ones who can understand the full joy of triumph. The sons and daughters of India must seek after truth—the nation's greatest good. They must seek with bowed heads and humble hearts, and then the harvest they reap will be rich and full. Stump oratory, and the machi-

nery and wiles for gathering an aimless, witless crowd, for pseudo political purposes, must be relegated to limbo. These are childish toys. Let the men of India say in the spirit of the words of the Apostle of the Gentiles—"When we were children, we spoke as children, we acted as children, we loved childish things; but now that we have become men, we must put away the things that would be seemly for children. "Only those are crowned and sainted who with grief have been acquainted." It is such acquaintance that not only makes nations noble but free.

II.

The life of Baber, the first prince of this line, reads like romance, so full it is of surprising vicissitudes and remarkable adventures, and recalls the history of the life of Scottish Bruce, whom he resembled in tenacity of purpose and the happy constitution of hopefulness, and being unable to give to despair, even during the darkest moments of his life. A most singular man was this Baber, as we gather from his Memoirs. Baber has written his life in so simple and frank a manner, so honest is he in the disclosures he makes, that the reader closes the perusal with the impression, that this Baber must have possessed a most manly spirit, and a mind remarkably free from affectation and the pride of a high station in life.

These Memoirs, like a looking glass, reflect faithfully the character of the man, and also acquaint us with the manner of life of a great Tartar monarch. Baber is shown to us as a man of a remarkable easy and sociable temper, which his great trials could not alter, nor the subsequent possession of power and grandeur diminish. Baber was gifted with remarkable sensibility, and was by imagination a poet. His refined taste prevented him falling a victim to the gross vices which disfigured Moslem rulers and great men of those days. Baber had a keen and appreciative love for nature. Possessed of a kind and affectionate heart, he loved with a strong and abiding love. The friends of the poor and unfortunate Baber, were still the friends of the conqueror of Hindostan.

To his relatives he was ever indulgent and kind, especially so to the ladies of his family. His mother he loved with a reverent affection, and ever deprived himself to secure her ease and comfort. In these Memoirs, he speaks so simply of his love and affectionate interest in his mother and female relatives, that we recall Baber as a boy, or as a youth, and forget that it is the life-story of a bold and brave warrior and a great King.

In these Memoirs, we also see how unselfishly Baber placed his friends on a level with himself. He records the most minute incidents of their lives. Their illness, their accidents, their successes, their adventures, their disappointments, their failures, are all jotted down in a kindly way. Baber even shows his interest in them by noting their jokes and eccentricities. The book shows the writer to be of such a tender and loving disposition, that we are not surprised when we read the confession, which tells us, that he wept for the playmate of his boyhood when he heard of his death. In a letter to a confidential friend, this passage occurs—"They very recently brought me a single musk-melon: while cutting it up, I felt myself affected with a strong feeling of loneliness, and a sense of my exile from my native country, and I could not help shedding tears while I was eating it." The musk-melon was not indigenous to India at this period. We owe the musk-melon to Cabul. To this very friend he writes on another occasion with great freedom, relating little anecdotes of their common acquaintances, which he thinks will please him. He winds up the letter with, "for God's sake excuse all these fooleries and do not think the worse of me for them."

Unfortunately for himself, Baber was at one time a great wine-bibber, and there is reason to believe that his indulgence in wine tended to shorten his days. The deep drinking of wine was a popular habit with most of the great Mussulmans of the time, I mean, of course, the Mussulmans with whom India has been acquainted. "In these Memoirs of his many a drinking party is recorded with as much interest, as his negotiations or his battles; and unsuitable as they are to his station, they are not the least agreeable scenes in Baber's history. The perfect ease and familiarity among the company makes one forget the prince in the

man; and the temptations that generally led to such excesses; a shady wood, a hill, with a fine prospect, or the idleness of a boat floating down the river—together with the amusements with which they are accompanied—recitations in Turki or Persian, extempore verses, with sometimes a song, and often a contest of repartee, take away all coarseness that may attach to such scenes of dissipation." In after years, Baber, as we shall see, relinquished the use of wine, and advised his friends to do so also; to one friend to whom he was particularly attached, he wrote persuading him to give up this habit and to follow his example. The argument he uses is quaint. "Drinking was a very pleasant thing with our old friends and companions; but now since you have only Sheir Ahmed and Haidar Kuli to take your wine with it can be no great sacrifice to leave it off." Besides his Memoirs, Baber, it is stated, took high rank among the poets of his country; his Persian poems and collection of Turki compositions are remarkably elegant.

JAMES H. LINTON.

MNEMONIC BRITISH HISTORY.*

The Barat Press has issued, in a neat little well-printed pamphlet of 70 pages, a synopsis of the leading events in British history from the Roman Period down to Her Majesty's Jubilee. Although a school-book, it is obviously distinguished by execution from the literature of that description which now issues in shoals from the Indian press. Some of our native school-book-makers are not bad hands at compiling and digesting information, while the majority simply crib from different English sources. But they all discover themselves in their own part of the work. The very title is often faulty. If they somehow get over that, their pretensions are usually wrecked on the preface, let it consist of ever so few words. This little brochure shows a scholarly hand in the preface. In it Miss Allen explains that the present work is her second effort towards supplying the deficiencies of Mrs. Slater's *Sententia*. That book gives the history of the world in a nut-shell. Necessarily meagre in details as it is, it sufficeth not for our schoolboys who have to show a larger acquaintance with Indian and English history. Hence Miss Allen's labours. She commenced with Indian history and has now followed up with the outlines of the history of the mother-country. Like its predecessor, the present book follows Mrs. Slater's in adopting the mnemonic method. This is to present the leading events in brief sentences, followed in each case by another brief, or briefer, sentence so constructed and printed that the capitally printed initial letters of the words contain, in accordance with the key observed, the date. The key is simple, all the consonants but two being assigned numerical value from 1 to 9 and nought.

Thus the book opens :—

"B. C. 55.

Julius Cæsar's first invasion of Britain

Julius's invincible Legions Land in Albion.

A. D. 59.

Suetonius Paulinus, Governor of the Roman Province of Britain, during the reign of Nero.

An Imperial Legate, Paulinus, is appointed."

The mnemonic sentence is printed in Italics with the exception of the initial consonants of value. The two L's in the first such sentence give the date 55, L being valued at 5. In the second, LP gives 59.

The Eastern languages have long possessed similar systems of their own of greater elaborateness. It is this literal valuation that supplies the Persian chronograms. But that system has the advantage of time and universal acceptance, whereas the English language has no such time-honoured valuation. Whatever exertion has to be bestowed by the learner in mastering the key of this book, will be of no further use to him in life.

SURRENDER NOT THE GREAT COOKED IN HIS OWN JUICE AND DISHED.

Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher, vanity of vanities: All is vanity; in the midst of life we are in death. His High Mightiness of the Chair—of North Barrackpore has

Fallen, fallen, fallen, fallen,

Fallen from his high estate,

* *The Principal Events in British History, from the first Roman occupation to the present day, for University Entrance, and Government Seventh Standard Candidates.* By Miss Adams, LaMartiniere, Calcutta. Barat Press, 1888.

fallen like Lucifer never to hope again—at any rate, not for three mortal years to come. No wailing is heard, no sigh is wafted, not a tear is shed: the eloquent apostle of self-government falls unwept, unhonored, and unsung.

Oh, mighty Cæsar! dost thou lie so low?

Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils,

Shrunk to this little measure?

But if Surrender Not has been snuffed out, he has tempted his own fate. No sooner had he attained the upmost rung of the ladder, the highest civic honor in the gift of the Peddlingtonians, than he turned his back unto it, nay, began to scorn the base degrees by which he ascended. Is it to be wondered at then that, stung to the quick, the ladder would rise and send him about his business? Disadvantaged as he was by the defection of his own allies and creatures, and knowing as he did that discretion is the better part of valour, Mr. Banerjee did not offer himself a candidate but made a friend of his, among the faithless faithful only he! to stand for the Chair, hoping himself to be the Chairman *de facto* if not the Chairman *de jure*. But the enemies had their wits about them and knew that the candidature of Roy Gopal Mohun Sirkar Bahadur was a mere blind. Though Surendra Nath did not appear in the field *in propria persona*, the defeat sustained by Roy Bahadur will none the less be regarded as a defeat inflicted on him. It has been said by one of the greatest military geniuses of modern times that the next dreadful thing to a battle lost is a battle won. But Surendra Nath is too bumptious, too self-sufficient to lay this lesson to heart. In '84 he won a double victory, having been elected both as a Commissioner and the Chairman. But he did not use the victory with moderation. He was Sir Oracle and when he opened his mouth he would let no dog bark: His friends began to fall off never to be whistled back, swell the ranks of the enemy and hate him with the rancour of a renegade; and by the time that the 2nd General Election took place there was not a rat left in the sinking vessel. But the bitterest drop in the cup was that the seceders linked themselves to an interloper, nay a Britisher and a Government officer to boot, and have voted him to the Chair. But if a stranger now fills Banerjee's throne, is there any body in the whole Municipality to cast a longing lingering look behind at the good old rule with which he has shaken hands and parted simultaneously with the enforced retirement of Baboo Banerjee? There can be but one reply, and that is an unhesitating and emphatic No. The reason is not far to seek. Demagogues are despots *in posse*; add to this, power, you know, pollutes whatever it touches, and it is no matter of surprise that dressed in little brief authority Surendra Nath would develop a variety of unamiable qualities, play such fantastic tricks before high heaven as make the angels weep—nay, pose as a Cæsar till the people were provoked to cry,

Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world,

Like a Colossus; and we petty men

Walk under his huge legs, and peep about.

Men at some time are masters of their fates.

The Immortal Bard of Avon has sung:—

Could great men thunder

As Jove himself does, Jove would never be quiet;

For every pelting, petty officer

Would use his heaven for thunder,—

Nothing but thunder,

and unlike merciful Heaven who, with his sharpened and sulphurous bolt splits the unwedgeable and gnarled oak rather than the soft myrtle, they would fight shy of the big swells and hurl their bolts on the devoted heads of the weak and helpless. This was pre-eminently the case with the champion of Local Self-Government. He signalized the first year of his administration by *Hairan-ing* and *Parashan-ing* one Kanai Mistry—a man as poor as Job but not so patient. He was accused of encroaching on a public drain by blocking it up with a mound of earth in one place with the object of widening his own land and tried by a Bench of Magistrates composed of Surendra as President and two other gentlemen, one of whom had as a Municipal Commissioner already held an inquiry into the alleged offence and so far expressed an opinion as to issue notices both written and verbal on the accused, and as such was not competent to be associated in the trial. But other illegalities were committed which stagger belief and before which the one just noticed, pales. None of the Magistrates were specially empowered under the law to receive a complaint or hold a criminal trial without having received a particular case on reference from a Superior Magistrate—taking it for granted that they were properly appointed ones which, I am afraid, they were not. The Chairman Babu Banerjee had no authority to issue a summons. The summons instead of bearing the seal of the Magistrate bore the seal of the Municipality. The accused was required to answer the charges in less than 24 hours after the service of the summons.

He asked for postponement in order to produce witnesses for his defence but this was refused—though the prayer was perfectly reasonable and legal, seeing that he was convicted under Sec. 218 Act III B.C.'84 of an offence other than that specified in the summons. He was fined Rs. 20 for disobedience of the orders of the Commissioner, and Rs. 10 with costs for obstruction of the drain; a further order was passed directing that "if the accused within one week did not remove the obstruction a daily fine of Rs. 5 would be imposed upon him until the same was removed" though the imposition of a daily fine has more than once been held by the High Court to be illegal. It goes without saying that the High Court which justly inspires public confidence quashed the arbitrary illegal—nay tyrannical proceedings of the model Huzurs. Long before Surendra Nath was hatched into a Mazzini by the heat of his own ambition, his conduct had been described by no less a personage than the Argus-eyed Sir George Campbell as "dishonest and fraudulent." And what strikes me with surprise is not that he should be capable of *zoolum* and *zaburdusteesm*, but that the man who was not righteous enough to remain in the Civil Service should have been called to sit on the benches of both the Metropolis and a considerable metropolitan borough to do justice between man and man like the immaculate or uncaught members of the service. That a man of his antecedents holds two of the most important, though honorary, offices, is a proof positive of how little the interests of the people weigh with those to whom their destinies have been committed. If there were honest and honorable journalism—if the Press really deserved the high sounding name of the Parliament always in session the scandalous satire of Local Self-Government that was enacted at North Barrackpore would have created quite a sensation and the principal actor would have been held up to public execration and contempt.

Characters, they say, never change. Opinions alter—characters are only developed. Towards the close of his administration, Surendra Nath again rode roughshod over law, justice and common sense and convicted and sentenced another person. The decision was, it need hardly be said, set aside but then the poor man had to prefer an appeal before the District Magistrate—nay invoke the High Court which held as follows:—"We consequently hold that in as much as the proceedings in their initiation and in the manner in which they came before the Municipal Bench which held this trial illegal and void *ab initio*, the conviction and sentence must be set aside. It is a matter of much regret that there should have been such irregularities in the initiation of these proceedings so as to involve considerable expense to the parties concerned."

One more instance of high handedness and I am done. Some-time in 1886 Mr. Banerjee on the unseconded and unsupported motion of one of his colleagues—a lick spittle of his, turned out of the vestry several ratepayers who were there to hear the deliberations of the village elders. When called upon by another commissioner to put the resolution before the meeting—he refused to do so saying that he had as much power to order a ratepayer to leave the meeting room as the speaker of the House of Commons to clear the strangers' gallery on emergent occasions. But his colleague was not a man to be terrified into surrender by the apparition of the practice of Parliament. The autocrat was, after all, made to put the motion to the vote and was, as a matter of course, ignominiously defeated—though he it said to his shame, he took care not to enter the resolution in the proceedings of the meeting. It must be said in this connection that when an official predecessor of his turned a ratepayer out of the room—the *Bengalee* was a running tirade, a filthy current of rancorous abuse and a ceaseless diabetes of acerbity. But if our patriotic editor is consistent in nothing else, he is consistent at any rate in his inconsistency.

Those who are believers in patriots and are not aware of Mr. Banerjee's antecedents might, after reading the above lines, cry *Etu Brute*, but as for myself I only wonder that he has not yet done anything at which the world would grow paler—if paler, indeed, it can possibly become—for no man is a hero to his valet.

A BLUNT MAN CALLING A SPADE A SPADE.

ZEMINDARY ZOOLUM.

SIR,—Permit me to bring to the notice of the public, through your widely circulated journal, the particulars of another suit recently instituted by Baboo Hurry Hurr Mookhurjee, the landlord of Utterbar Jhapordah, against one of his rayyets of the name of Umbica Churn Ruckheet.

The arrears claimed under the law of Landlord and Tenant, amounted to 1-5-11½. Umbica proved previous tender of his rent at Baboo Hurry Hurr's Village Catcharry. On non-acceptance of the same, he had deposited it in Court. The Court granted Baboo Hurry Hurr a decree for 5 *couries* (pacca) equal to one-sixteenth of an anna; of course, Baboo Hurry Hurr has been ordered to pay Umbica his costs.

Sir, what does this suit prove? Does it prove a *bonâ fide* case on the part of Baboo Hurry Hurr for his annas and gondahs, which as he lately said in the papers would amount to several

hundreds? Well, the law of limitation in respect of such claims, is three years. Could not Baboo Hurry Hurr wait till at least the last kist of the year to see how Umbica behaved? Would this have entailed any loss on him? What made him rush to Court for 5 cowries on the very first day on the expiry of the Kist? Has Umbica been able to recover all the unauthorised and authorised costs that he had really to incur; I hope Baboo Hurry Hurr will kindly answer some of these questions quoting, if he can, even a single instance of any other landlord in all Bengal (I give him all India too in the bargain) who has ever sued a tenant for such trifle.

A. RAYYET.

Howrah, 18th March 1888.

MONGHYR.

An accident happened at mile 191 on the Loop line between Barharwa and Tinpahar Stations, of the E. I. Railway, when an up Goods train was passing over the *Chotta Pugla* bridge, which I hear was undergoing repairs. The driver having run his train over the bridge at a greater speed than he should have, some of the loose rails came out and the train was derailed. Several wagons were smashed to pieces, and the bridge was also very much damaged, the girders being bent by the force with which the train went against them. Fortunately no lives were lost. In consequence of this the up Loop Mail arrived here at 8 A.M. being 3 three hours late. The passengers having had to be transhipped to another train which was waiting on the up side of the place where the accident occurred.

Nothing has transpired as yet, as to the origin of the accident in question, of course it will, when the investigation of the case comes off.

Busy preparations are now being made here for the *Barowari Poojab* of which allusion was made by me some time ago. It is now in full swing, having made rapid progress. The image for symbol of worship has been nicely made. The members of the *Barowari* committee having secured the services of competent "Image makers and painters" from Lower Bengal, did well. The deity selected for the worship is *Rajrajeswari*. The work on the images has been remarkably well done, especially the idols *Mobadeva*, *Mobakala* and *Brahma* have a very natural appearance.

Arrangements have already been made to secure a jatra, "keertan" "dhop" and dancing party from Lower Bengal.

The ceremony is expected to come off by the latter end of the current month (March), when I hope to be able to give your readers an account of the proceedings.

All I can now say is, that this is a novel sight to the Beharees in general here, who have also joined the Bengalees in this movement.

An annual entertainment of the kind under notice was no doubt a desideratum, especially in a place like this, which a few years back was nothing but the abode of wild and ferocious animals only.

It is a matter of great delight (not to speak of anything else) to see both Bengalees and Beharees united co-operating with each other in such an undertaking.

A she goat gave birth to a kid a few days ago at Kosim Bazar, in Monghyr, having 2 tails, 8 legs, 2 spines, 2 stomachs, one neck and head, 2 ears and 2 eyes, but it expired after a short while. The owner of the animal contemplated earning his livelihood by means of this unnatural production, but unfortunately failed to accomplish his wishes, owing to nature's surrender. He is really to be pitied, for his disappointment.

The has been a change in the weather of late, though we still have cold nights and mornings.

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Further subscriptions are invited and will be duly acknowledged in the papers.

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Calcutta, 11th April, 1888.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "flesh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "We serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of anyone with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

SALE OF IRON PADDLE STEAMER.

TENDERS for the purchase of the Madras Government Steam Tug *Madras*, built at Blackwall by T. A. Young in 1876, will be received by the Port Officer at Madras, up to noon of Tuesday the 1st May 1888.

2. The vessel will be sold at Calcutta with engines, boilers, masts, sails, awnings, spars, anchors, cables, boats, and such other stores as may be on board on the 30th March and which will not be removed previous to the sale.

3. Each tender, before being opened, must be accompanied by a treasury receipt for a sum equal to 25 per cent. of the amount offered, and the balance must be paid within 48 hours of acceptance of the tender and before delivery is taken. The tenders will be submitted to the Government of Madras for orders.

4. The vessel will be at the risk and charge of the purchaser from the date the acceptance of the tender by Government is communicated to him.

5. The following description of the vessel is believed to be correct, but any errors or misdescription shall not annul the sale, nor shall any compensation be allowed on that account :—

Tonnage	... 197 gross.
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When built	... In the year 1876.
Where built	... At Blackwall.
Extreme length	... 123 feet 4 inches.
Do. breadth	... 20 feet 8 inches.
Depth ...	... 11 feet 1 inch.
Number of bulkheads	Three.
Do. of decks	... One.
Engines	... Two side lever dis-connecting surface condensing.
Boilers ...	... One multitubular.
Horsepower indicated	137.
Do. nominal	75.
Coal that can be stowed in bunkers	66 tons.

6. The vessel will be open for inspection at Calcutta on applying for an order to the Deputy Director of Indian Marine on or after the 30th March 1888.

H. A. STREET,
Capt., H.M.'s Indian Marine,
Port Officer.

Madras Port Office,
15th March 1888.

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1888.

} No. 320

KAISER WILHELM.

AFTER THE FUNERAL, MARCH 16TH.

It is said, in days of Summer, when the moonlight on the Rhine
Floods with scintillating silver all the land of hill and vine,
That the shadow of a monarch comes to visit earth again,
And that great imperial phantom is the ghost of Charlemagne.

Not in anger comes the Kaiser from his tomb at La Chapelle,
But his eyes are fain to look on all the scenes he loved so well ;
And upon the Bridge of Moonbeams, lo ! the spectre takes its stand,
With the palms of benediction o'er the ancient Fatherland.

So the olden legend runneth. Now once more the Teutons weep
For a paladin as peerless, who has won eternal sleep ;
Though they mourn the mighty Soldier that his God has ta'en away,
'Tis the Father of his People that his children miss to-day.

Brave in battle, sage in council, with no thought of praise or pelf,
On the altar of his country he had immolated self ;
And the up-hill path of duty with a steadfast foot he trod,
Single-hearted in devotion to the Fatherland and God !

May we not then, looking forward to the years that are to be,
When all living men have vanished like the sands beneath the sea,
Dare to presage of a presence, will be seen of man once more,
A twin-spectre in the moonbeams with the Charlemagne of yore.

And the children of those ages shall look out upon the night,
And with awe-struck whispers murmur, as they see the fearsome sight,
" Lo ! his great sword flashes upward for an everlasting sign ;
Kaiser Wilhelm comes to bid us keep with him the Watch on Rhine ! "

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Doctors have pronounced their verdict on the ailing Emperor Frederick. They apprehend pyæmia, which once set in quickly poisons the blood.—The Crown Prince William has received formal appointment to act the Emperor.

SNOW-STORMS have checked the reconnaissance march of our Sikh Force to the Jalep-la Pass.

THE Deb Raj of Bhutan is said to have fixed upon a deputation to mediate between our Government and Tibet.

IT was placarded in Mandalay that there would be a rising by the 22nd.

ON the evening of the 18th, there was a storm at Mandalay, uprooting several huge trees, blowing off roofs of houses and otherwise damaging property. Two men are reported killed. The temperature went down by 28 degrees to 76.

THE noted Abdul Huq, the Railway King of Hyderabad, has been suspended from the Home and Public Works Secretariat of the Deccan Government, for disobedience and peculation, and explanation called for from him of his conduct in respect of the concession of mining rights.

DEATH is telegraphed of Mr. Mathew Arnold, the critic and poet, of heart disease.

THE usual conflagration at Moorshedabad broke out on the 16th, at Rajabazaar, the whole quarter to the extent of four hundred houses being burnt down.

ON the 7th, a fire—supposed to be the work of incendiaries—occurred in the village of Sripore, Hoogly, reducing 15 big thatched houses to ashes.

TWO or three—the thing is so common that people do not care to be precise—fires occurred at Cuttack within the first week of this month, in one of which some hundred huts of the poor and four cows, together worth about Rs. 2,000, perished.

THE first Mahomedan Chairman of the Bombay Municipal Corporation has been elected in the person of Rahimtoola Mahommed Sayani.

THE Public Works Member of the Government of India and the Director General of State Railways (Sir Charles Elliot and Colonel L. Conway Gordon) with a number of officials had had a narrow escape with their lives recently, while travelling on inspection on the Bengal-Nagpore branch of the G. I. P. Railway, a rail having been removed by the Bhil Tania, it is suspected. This kind of mischievousness has become rather common of late in that part.

THE Sub-Post Master in charge at Ghoraghat, in Dinagapore, an old man passed fifty, of good character, was found in his bed in the post office killed apparently by a burglar for the money in the chest, as there were marks of bloody fingers on it. The wretch got nothing for his crime, as the Post Master had removed the cash Rs. 200, to the Police Station for safety.

A MEETING of the local bar was held at the Ranchee court-house, under the presidency of the Government Pleader Baboo Devendra Lal Basu, at which it was resolved that each of the eight members of the said bar should pay Rs. 100 towards building a house for a bar library and that the gentry of the district be asked for funds for the purchase of books. Suitors will be expected to pay for the maintenance of the institution.

MR. BARBOUR, the Finance Minister elect, is expected in India next November.

A BAKER has died in Vienna leaving a fortune of £1,600,000. He was last known as Count Zang.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE Tokio Court has gone into mourning for 3 weeks for the death of the Kaiser William of Germany.

PROGRESSIVE Japan is not yet ripe for the Liberty of the Press. The Mikado had recently set free the Press, but an ukase has again been issued authorising the Minister of the Interior to suspend or suppress any journal for "objectionable sentiments" against the throne.

LORD WILLIAM BERESFORD has obtained 3 months' leave of absence. He goes home early next month. Major Cooper officiates as Military Secretary.

THERE are Indians and Indians. The creatures of ilk name that are still permitted to remain in the precincts of the great Republic of the United States, have recently been described by a writer whose article is thus summarised in a London paper:—

"A Paper in the March number of *Harper's Magazine* gives some curious particulars of the Indian territory—that wild but beautiful region lying between Kansas and Texas, wherein, surrounded by a broad belt of land, left uninhabited the better to isolate them from their neighbours, the 'five civilized tribes' now dwell in peace. These are the Cherokees, Creeks, Seminoles, Choctaws, and Chickasaws. Each of them is described as living a life absolutely separate from the rest, with its own peculiarities, its own institutions, and its own national characteristics. The government of each nation is republican, with elections frequently recurring, legislatures, executives, and systems of judiciary. Each nation too supports common schools and high schools, provides charitable institutions, and fosters churches. Whether Choctaw or Cherokee, these Indians carry on large business interests, and live intelligent and valuable lives. Vinita, the most commercial town of the Cherokees, is described as 'a brick and mortar city with shops and newspapers, and a busy life of its own.' But Vinita is not the most representative Indian settlement. 'Have you seen Tahlequah?' is the question always asked of the traveller who has visited this part. It is situated in the interior of the country among the mountains. 'Up and down its streets,' says Mrs. Dawes, walks a population industrious and well-to-do, busy about the daily affairs of shop and farm and school and state.' Its women, dressed in the fashions of the metropolitan market, sit down in their elaborately decorated parlours, or in their more humble homes, to discuss the food and clothes of the nursery, or the last magazine, or the gossip of the town, according to their tastes and habits, much as their sisters do across the border. According to the testimony given in 1885 to a committee of the United States Senate, of the 5,000 men of this nation 3,500 were farmers, not 200 of them professional men, 133 were mechanics, and—in an Indian tribe it must be remembered—only 23 were hunters and fishermen. The Cherokees with their nationalised land system seem exceedingly prosperous in a worldly way. But this writer is not satisfied with the result of their essentially communistic organization. The result, we are told, is that 'half the nation sits down content to eat and drink, a great unprogressive animal class, a weight upon the community, failing of every end of civilization or any comprehension of its advantages.'"

THE Budget estimate of Home Remittances for the year 1888-89 has been fixed at £14,000,000. The remittances from 1st to 14th April 1888 amounted to £743,300.

HERE is another poor innocent unable to make use of the money he had been at so much pains to acquire:—

"Last December (writes a Paris correspondent) the State came into a large fortune which was left it by an old man named Meyer, who said in his will that he had no relatives. When the inventory of Meyer's goods and chattels was being made a stone filter was thrown aside because broken and unfit for any use, but the other day, when it was being carried away as rubbish, a bundle of papers fell out. On examination they were found to be debentures and other stock, payable to bearer, and, at the present rate of the stock market, worth £12,000."

ON account of cholera in the district, order is Gazetted prohibiting the emigration of coolies from Manbhoom to the Labour Districts.

ASSISTANT Surgeon Doyal Chunder Shome, M. B., has been admitted an Honorary Assistant Surgeon to the Viceroy, in place of Assistant Surgeon Samuel Pollock Johns, deceased.

IN its issue of the 13th instant, the *Daily Athenaeum* publishes as "Notes" nine paragraphs. The first eight are *verbatim* reprints from *Reis and Rayyet*. There is, of course, no acknowledgment of any kind. That even might be endured, perhaps, if the wrong ended there. But the ninth and last extract is from another Calcutta paper, the name of which is mentioned at foot—thus making it appear that all the nine passages are from that source. Had this been an occasional case or confined to our contemporary in question, we would be the last to notice

the matter. We can understand that it is by a slip that the *Eastern Guardian*, in the same issue in which giving due credit it quotes our leaderette on the passing of the Abolition of Imprisonment for Debt Bill, gives no clue to the paternity of our long article on the Dufferin Demonstration, which it reproduces *in extenso*. In point of fact, it is a common vice in India; and we have suffered from it more than almost any other paper, the *Pioneer* of course excepted. We appreciate the compliment that our contemporaries do us in transferring from our columns. We only wish them to add to their obligation by giving the reference on each occasion. Surely, this is not asking too much. They will, we can assure them, be in no danger of giving us more than our due. The writing in all the departments of our paper, even to "News and Comments," is all our own.

A TELEGRAM from the Resident in Kashmir dated Srinagar the 16th instant reports the occurrence of thirty cases of cholera, eighteen in Srinagar and the rest in different parts of the valley. The disease is said to be assuming a severer type as seven cases and three deaths were reported within 24 hours previous to the despatch of the message.—Press Commissioner.

THE House of Commons have read the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill of the session a second time, by a majority of fifty-seven votes.

HERE is a curious crime:—

"Miss Bellina Prior, daughter of the late Colonel Prior, was, on Tuesday, March 27, arrested at the residence of her mother, Vicar's Hall, Armagh, and charged before the magistrates with having drowned Ann Slavin, aged three years. The evidence showed that Miss Prior enticed the child into her house, gave it sweetmeats, and then drowned it in the kitchen boiler. Prisoner said she committed the crime because she was treated unkindly at home, and she did not care if she were hanged. She was remanded."

That poor girl cannot be in her right senses.

ON the 12th, Sir Frank Souter, Commissioner of Police at Bombay, presented a young Bania lad, named Lilladur Dharsi, with the bronze medal of the Royal Humane Society, for saving, on the 14th of August, 1887, about 7.30 in the evening, the life of a Bania boy, named Curson Pursotum, who jumped into a well with the intention of committing suicide. Although several people, hearing the splash, rushed to the spot, it was Lilladur Dharsi, who, without a moment's hesitation, jumped in, and supported the drowning boy till they were both drawn out.

ON the 6th instant, a police peon with a double-barrelled name, Kalekhan Soobratkan, of Rajkote in Kattywar, did more havoc and caused more consternation than he ever accorded protection in his capacity of a public servant. We must go to Singapore or Hongkong in order to find a parallel to the bloody deeds done by this single man on a single occasion. He was understood to have assisted some persons who had grievously wounded others in the Rajkote State. Pursuant to application under the Extradition Treaty or Act, he was made over to the State. There he made up matters with the complainants and induced them to withdraw the charge. But the State authorities would not permit them. He was at his post on bail, when he heard that his Kotwal or suspector in charge of the station, Mr. Bawanian, and a Police corporal, named Dost Mahammad, had caused the application for withdrawal to be rejected. Brooding over his grievance, he resolved upon vengeance. Issuing forth with his drawn sword in the afternoon, he cut the head of Dost Mahammad almost clean off as he was counting money for the pay of the men with Narayan, a *Karkoon*. For exclaiming "what have you done?" poor Narayan was despatched with another cut. The sword being slightly bent under the successive operation, the man of blood threw it away and took up another and rushed outside. A sweeper was cut down at a blow for another unlucky remark touching the state of the man's head. The runner-amok now ran off to the Inspector's house and hacked him. Thus he went on, killing and wounding whomsoever he had a grudge against or a bad opinion of. The slightest appearance of criticism was punished by drawing out blood. Thus he ran to the mutton market to cut down some of the meat sellers who were among his complainants or had perhaps at one time or another passed neck-beef for good mutton. There he found the stalls deserted, the butchers, warned by news of what was going on, having taken shelter in the military lines. He then turned

towards the Police lines. On the way, a plucky Parsee gentleman named Sorabji, who was luckily provided with a stick, saw him coming and boldly faced him with the question, "Kalekhan what are you about? Are you mad?" As usual, the bold man succeeded in taming the tiger, where the terrified sweeper Dhania not only failed but got killed into the bargain. "I have killed many persons," said poor Kalekhan, who now for the first time seemed to realise his doings. By this he had exhausted his strength and his thirst for blood. Now supervened the natural thirst—for water. He made no more ado, threw himself into no attitudes, but quietly gave his sword to Mr. Sorabji and called for water. After drinking, he, like a quiet good boy, walked up without assistance to the Police station, where he gave himself into custody and where he was locked up. Soon after, the Magistrate arrived, followed by the mounted Police, and then Col. Morse, commanding the station, and last by the Political Agent. The man had already been hand-cuffed and chained, and he was now marched under a strong escort to jail. A superfluous measure! He was now quiet as a lamb. He had done his work, having killed five men and wounded six. The scene of wailing and confusion and panic at Rajkote was indescribable.

THE *personnel* of the German Parliament has been classified according to build or general outfit of the person or personal habits on cardinal points. The House consists of 380 members and these are divided as follows:—

"9 wear spectacles, 57 use the double eye-glasses, and 21 a single eye-glass; 142 still retain luxuriant heads of hair; 65 wear full beards, 87 have their beards cut in the military fashion, 24 wear 'bristly beards,' 48 wear mutton-chop whiskers, 73 indulge in moustaches only, and 52 are clean shaved, 97 are corpulent, 78 conspicuously thin, 84 are of unusual height, and 74 noticeably short. The whole are tobacco smokers, with the exception of 39, or rather less than 10 per cent."

Our countrymen who are looking so monkeyish with their cropped pates after the latest British fashion and so hideous in their apery of the European black coat, should note the German preference still for luxuriant heads of hair.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *East* furnishes the following particulars of the case of Mr. Sandys, the manager of the Maharaja of Tipperah's Zemindary in British Territory, which was recently being investigated before a commission at the Durbar:—

"Mr. Sandys, Manager of the Maharaja's chakla cutchery, has after all been dismissed from service under order of the Maharaja for embezzling, I hear, a large sum of money, and falsifying accounts in a ridiculous manner. The public here consider the order to be an equitable and impartial one, as they know the man perfectly well. But what our Magistrate, Mr. Price, is of opinion is not known as yet; it is, however, whispered all round here that, he acted quite inconsistently with his position as Political Agent by pressing upon the Maharaja to raise the emoluments and powers of Mr. Sandys. The embezzlements in question are connected with money drawn in lumps for unforeseen charges; but the account connected with money spent under Mr. Sandys's orders as manager of the chakla has not been scrutinized as yet. Movements are, however, on foot to do the same shortly, and also to sue him in the Civil Court for recovery of the amount already traced out as embezzled. A few items of the so-called embezzlements are given here for enabling your readers to know their nature (1) a large sum is entered as disbursed for the feed and keep of two carriage-horses from November 1884, though the said animals were actually procured from Calcutta in March following, or 4 months after (2) an expenditure of Rs. 519 is shown for the entertainment of Mr. Price during his stay of 11 days at Agortola in April last year; but on the Commission declining to pass this charge for want of proper vouchers, certain bills, signed by a Calcutta Firm were produced but they proved to be relating to charges for subsequent periods. (3) A sum of Rs. 2175 is shown as spent in the course of 33 days for going to, and coming back from, Sylhet and Shillong; but the Commission after granting First class fare and other charges, found still over Rs. 1000 to be accounted for by Mr. Sandys. (4) One Mahabat Ali, is entered as being paid Rs. 800 on account of salary, though this man never held any appointment, either under the order of the Minister or Maharaja."

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE *Indian Daily News* has exercised the entire Indian public by its telegram from Simla stating that the Viceroy is certain to go away in August, and may depart even sooner. Our contemporary's correspondent seems to have seized and made the most of one of the rumours floating about Simla. At any rate, there is no truth in this report. Nothing is yet decided about the precise date or manner of Lord Dufferin's departure. There is no reason to think his Lordship will go before December.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY is in no hurry to fly to the Hills. Lady Bayley however, with her daughters and Miss Farquharson go to Darjeeling on the 24th. The Lieutenant-Governor follows about the 20th of next month.

His many friends will be glad to learn that Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace, who was reported by the Simla correspondents of some of the papers as far from recovered from his recent attack, is all right again.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY has dismissed the rate-payers' suit on the initial pleas of limitation and *res judicata*. We expected as much. Nor can we blame. There is a time for everything, and the time in this case had positively, absolutely expired. As the Lieutenant-Governor pointed out, in his exhaustive reply to the miserable deputation headed by Maharaja Jotindro Mohan Tagore, the time for protesting against amalgamation has long since passed away. Most of the details too have already been passed in Council, and have passed out of His Honor's hands. All he can now do is to place the memorial of the meeting presented by the deputation before the Council. Sir Steuart has no fear that it will be ordered to be preserved for the benefit of the future historian, but such notice as is now possible will be taken of it. If the Council thinks fit and sees its way to reconsider its own decisions, he as President will not be in the way with technical objections. What more could they expect? We confess we do not sympathise with the querulousness of our native contemporaries. After the Lieutenant-Governor's ample explanation, their complaint has no leg to stand upon. Sir Ashley Eden would have made short work of the meeting and the memorial. The memorialists should now take the lesson, and learn to prepare themselves betimes and better for the next battle, for the interests involved are too great and too lasting for them to abandon them. We hope, instead of exhausting themselves on sentimental grievances, they will reserve themselves for the clauses of the Municipal Bill which affect their hearths and homes.

WHEN will our journalists learn to husband their energies and wits? We had hoped that after the appearance of Secretary Durand's letter to him, they would have done with the incorrigible old Giffin, now specially that he is leaving the country. Not a bit of it! The Government letter is being made the occasion for reiterating all the charges and reviving buried complaints. As a specimen of the candour with which the letter has been criticised, we quote the following from the *Dacca Gazette's* leading article:—

"He asked for an expression of confidence from the Governor-General in Council but Lord Dufferin is too wily a bird to be drawn in. He confesses that he shares responsibility with Sir Lepel for his Bhopal proceedings and nothing more. He further adds that the Secretary of State for India has often expressed 'his sense of the vigour, judgment and discretion' displayed by Sir Lepel. Reader, please note, Lord Dufferin makes no expression of confidence of himself and his Council, though it is pointedly asked for? What can a Viceroy do but support the proceedings of his representatives abroad? It is often done as a matter of course, and Lord Dufferin did it, and he publicly acknowledges it. Does it amount to any expression of confidence? Sir Lepel wanted to extort a confession. But Lord Dufferin, a veteran diplomat as he is, is a little too cunning even for Sir Lepel Griffin. Who knows that the Viceroy does not now regret that he ever allowed himself to be blindly guided by his Agent?"

Such is the unblushing way in which the deliberate, though certainly cautious, deliverance of the Government of India is disposed of by patriotic publicists! For our Dacca contemporary is by no means singular. They are all, all of the same kidney, and talk in the same vein—the very tune. Their unanimity is wonderful. And it is this Press whose supposed mutual variations have vexed the soul of our Yankee friend of *Hope*, who proposes a drawing together and founding Association. What! more unanimity? Why, already they are as alike as a basketful of peas! Most of the papers, like

Most women, have no character at all.

Talk of organization and agreement! Is it not one oppressive monotone already, throughout the length and breadth of the Empire? To us it seems we should organize and agree to differ. In this, as in other walks, we badly want independence—of one another.

THE Mahomedan community has gained by the recent deaths in the Small Causes Bench of the metropolis. As the casualties were caused in due course of Nature, and no Abdulla was deputed by Wahabis of Dacca or Ferazees of Dacca to despatch the Kafir Kazees, we un-

feignedly rejoice in the luck of our fellow-subjects of the Islamite faith. We are glad to see Mr. Abul Hassan Gazetted to permanently fill the place—he had been officiating temporarily for Baboo Rajkisto Sen—of Registrar and Chief Ministerial Officer, in the Calcutta Small Cause Court. Government seems not to have been able to make up its mind as to the other vacant post. Mr. Chatterjee who is officiating, would make an excellent Judge. But the Subordinate Judicial Service has had a claim to one of the Puisne Judgeships since the appointment of the late Baboo Hurro Chunder Ghose, more than thirty years ago. If Baboo Amrita Lal Chatterjee cares for it, he will probably get it. He is not only senior on the list, but is also a good conscientious Judge. There is also another Chatterjee, Baboo Kristo Chunder, in our neighbourhood, Sub-Judge at Alipore, who is also a meritorious officer. They are all, all good and true, and all Chatterjees—God bless them. And may the Government see its way to reward them according to their deserts!

THE Mahatma in the Manger is acting after his kind. He will neither eat nor let eat. Titles are his abhorrence, and his high soul prefers to fish for Backshish of the upstart nobility and the *nouveau riche* to accepting the pay of an unrighteous Government. And if any body else less heroically patriotic, elects to serve that Government, he will be damned if he allows him! In fact, the news of anybody's good fortune throws him into a fit. Therein, he is a colleague fit of the son of Joseph Hume, who used to fight pitched battles over every appointment and the slightest expenditure of the State. Just now, his torture is the prospect of a worthy countryman and even friend of his getting a Small Cause Court Judgeship in Calcutta. What is this—A saint, a savage, or a sage? The spectacle is indecent in the extreme. Day after day, has poor Mr. Chatterjee been abused in the most atrocious way. His Mahatmaship affects not to know the other's merits. That does him little credit as either a prophet or a journalist. He might at least have remembered his obligations to that quarter. He seems alarmed at the consequences of such an appointment. Why does he lash himself into hell and fury for nothing? He need be in no apprehension about the interests of the public. If competent men are not found to testify to Mr. Chatterjee's capacity, he will certainly not get any appointment. The editor of the *Mirror* may be among the Prophets, but he is certainly not among the competent men—thank goodness and Mr. Chatterjee's stars! Though a nominal attorney, he is confessedly innocent of law and has evidently a grudge against facts, or at least an incapacity to take their measure and understand their bearings. We are told that his countrymen of the Native bar do not regard Mr. Chatterjee. So much the worse for Asia Minor! It is thus that the democracy of Athens banished her best citizen. We have ourselves been witness of the terms on which Mr. Chatterjee is treated by some of the leading European members of the bar. The statement is, also to our knowledge, untrue as to the native members too of any consequence. There may possibly be young imps of the law who, without either the opportunity or the disposition to drudge honorably and legitimately, in a professional way, spend the odds and ends of their large leisure with develling to the literary attorney of Dhurmollah. These may have caught the infection of the *Mirror's* spirit of envy, hatred and all uncharitableness, but we know that Mr. Bonnerjee, the Messrs. Ghose, Mr. Ameer Ali, and Mr. Mitter, and others who are at the head of the native side of the bar, have the highest regard for Mr. Chatterjee, professionally and personally. It would have been strange if it had been otherwise. A gentleman by birth, he has the manners of one and a fund of natural *bonhomie* into the bargain, and withal he is the most accomplished man in the bar, familiar with native and foreign languages, his mind stored with the classics of the East and the West, modern and ancient.

THE hot-house rose of a Kshettriya or Vaisya Pandit, which Professor Monier Williams transplanted from India to Oxford and nurtured with assiduous care, and whose wonderful growth's progress he incessantly advertised, has, after all, succumbed to the scorching blasts of Native Central India. It is in any case a hazardous experiment to place a young man fresh from College in any responsible charge. The idea of an Indian youth without Indian experience, or for that matter any experience at all, except that of English University life, being pitchforked into the chancellery of a Native State, however small, is simply preposterous. But the kindness of his influential friends and patrons would not hear of Shyamaji Krishna

Varma's noviciate in the business of the world. Apprenticeship is vulgar. Initiation might be the necessity of ordinary powers. Their *protégé* was genius sublimated by the latest Oxford culture. He was up to anything. He would not only do at the head of a principality, but do wonders. It were *infra dig* for genius to wait like the rest of us. So a suitable post was provided for him to take up immediately on Shyamaji's return to his mother-country. He stepped into the office of Minister of State of Rutlam. He had the advantage of serving a good and educated master. He made one or two speeches, of course, and announced himself a man of liberal ideas. But business proved a bore, and the ordeal of office exploded genius and classicism. All sides felt this, including himself. At length, the Maharaja could no longer drag on the burden of a useless and injurious connection. And the Dewan made the best of a bad bargain by accepting Rs. 13,000 in lieu of all claims and in consideration of relieving Rutlam. He left "bag and baggage" on the 14th.

We hope poor Rutlam in escaping from the frying pan is not reserved for the fire. For such a result the Maharaja will be to blame. He should take time to deliberate on his next choice. Meanwhile, the current duties of administration may be carried on by Naib Dewan Nobin Chunder Roy.

MR. ALLAN HUME, the father of the Indian Congress, after leaving Madras, is touring through the Mahratta and Guzerat countries on his Congressional mission, before proceeding to Hindostan on his way to Simla. At Bombay, he got up a meeting at the Hon'ble Pherozshah Mehta's residence, on a Sunday afternoon, at which he spoke, chalking out the lines on which the work of the Congress must proceed. At the end, a hundred more or less well-known gentlemen, with power to add to their number, were elected the standing Congress Committee for Bombay. That is the show Committee. It is on the face of it unworkable, being too unwieldy. A working Committee was, therefore, appointed with Mr. N. G. Chandravarkar of the *Indu Prakash* and Mr. D. E. Wachi of the *Indian Spectator*, as Secretaries.

THE mango blossom this year was magnificent. Thicker than leaves in Vallambrosa was the profusion of embryo fruitage, and high have been the hopes of our people, after having been last year condemned to scarcity, if not famine, of the whole coming season's daily feast of nectared sweets where no crude surfeit reigns. Alas, for the vanity of human wishes and expectations! The absence of seasonable showers in many places literally nipped the bud a good deal in many districts, and the late weather has completed the mischief. How could puny fruitage resist gales and hurricanes which have shaken Nawabs and dismantled the palaces of their pride!

There was still some chauce left for the people in and around Calcutta, now that it is in easy communication with the more distant parts of India. So long as Benares remained untouched, the lovers of mango would still enjoy the finest kinds. But disappointment upon disappointment, all hope of solace from that quarter must be abandoned. The *Pioneer's* Benares Correspondent gives warning:—

"Lovers of mangoes will have to look elsewhere than in Benares for their supply of this fruit this year; the late blight has ruined all the blossoms."

WE draw our readers' attention to the St. Peter's College in our advertisement columns. The institution is meant for Europeans as well as Indians. It is to be removed to a very spacious building with ample play-grounds. An Indian gentleman living in England, who is incapable of deceiving, assures us that the place is a very big one and the climate of the sea-side town most agreeable. There are already three Indian boys and it suits them beautifully. The Principal is Charles Unwin Simson, B.A., St. John's Coll., Oxon. The object is not only to train students for examinations but also to prepare them for a business career. Children are admitted at six years of age, and the younger pupils are specially cared for by Mrs. Simson.

THE other day we were drawn to visit an interesting place of education. Situated in the native town, it is for the benefit of Hindu boys. It is a boarding reformatory with day and night schools attached. Started in August 1886, under the patronage of Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, of the Civil Service, the accomplished and liberal author of *New*

India, it is called the "Cotton Institution." It originated in the desire to supply a place for confining unruly, vicious, criminal, or even dangerous boys. This was a crying want and the founders are entitled to the thanks of not only unfortunate parents and guardians burdened with such boys, but also of the whole community which, directly or indirectly, suffers more or less from such young imps of mischief. The school is housed in a palace lent for the purpose by its generous owner. It is not quite Perfection in a Palace, but it is in modest docile hands and, with increased public support, improvements will be introduced.

In passing a sentence at the Criminal Sessions, Mr. Justice Kernan of the Madras High Court sang to Clough's charming refrain. "Money, money, money!" cried his Lordship, Money, money money "pervades all departments." And so it is as a rule.

THE Madras *People's Friend* puts its foot in a sore place of the body administrative:—

"The Government offer their subordinates good salaries to keep them from avarice and bribery, but in spite of handsome remunerations, bribery is the besetting sin of the official of position and influence and wealth. Not that the small fry are without such temptations. These act as bribe givers likewise. Almost every place under officialdom is purchased, from the peon's to the Keranee's; and justice is overturned by a bribe. And bribes are given in various ways. Our readers must have heard of Master's and Mistress's Christmas Cakes. The latter went into the lady's room and contained in it Bank Notes for large sums secured so as to keep them from being soiled; and the former, with the ostentatious liberality of the Collector, was handed over to the household servants. Of course, Ramasawmy had an important case and it was decided in his favor through the magic agency of these Notes."

It is the same in all parts and Presidencies. That is, corruption, though not rampant, remains. We doubt whether even the Benighted Province retains the old institution of pagoda pies and bank-note pies. Here in Bengal and Upper India, it was called the *dally* system. Lord William Bentinck knocked it on the head. It is still observed in Behar and the N. W. Provinces, though not in the former gross and shameful way. It may be condoned as the practice of the country, if strictly confined to a compliment, but care should be taken that it does not degenerate into a nuisance nor is made use of as a vehicle for actual corruption.

BABU SHYAM KRISHAN of Benares advanced Rs. 20,000 to a man possessing property in Jaunpore, on mortgage, without enquiry into the estate hypothecated. So unsuspecting was the lender that he paid the money before registration, which was leisurely made afterwards. Thereafter he discovered that the property was saddled with a previous mortgage of which he has had no notice. Further inquiry disclosed that he had been amused with a fictitious registration of his bond. He believed the mortgagor not wisely but so implicitly that he let him register the deed in Jaunpore himself, leaving the whole matter entirely to him without taking any precautions, indeed without any interference of his own. Babu Shyam Krishan has, however, been unable to find any record of its being registered at the Jaunpore office, though the deed bears on itself the marks of such registration, such as the Seal of the office of the Registrar of Jaunpore, as well as a No. and a date. The whole transaction in fact is no mortgage at all, but a sale—"sell" as our British friends airily choose to spell it. It was a fine sprig to catch the gentle wood-cock of the Benares Lombard Street! Poor Shyam Krishan has charged his borrower with cheating and forgery. But that man is evidently an old stager and is not to be put out of countenance. In fact, he fully expected the attack and was prepared with his own measures. He is a bold fighter and scorns the defensive. He is determined to drive back the war into the enemy's country. He has, in return, charged Baboo Shyam Krishan with trying to extort money from him by intimidation with a forged document.

ANOTHER startling application of science and ingenuity:—

"Photographic science has advanced so far that 'a detective camera' can now be carried in the waistcoat pocket or even worn as a waistcoat button. This latter feat has actually been done, and a successful photograph taken. The waistcoat pocket apparatus has tiny plates ready for work at any moment, and it contains six of these plates on a pivot, so that a movement of the fingers will bring one plate after another into action, and enable six photographs to be taken in a few seconds. By this means many people will be photographed who would not sit for the world, and the instantaneous views of landscapes or startling incidents can be taken without any trouble or preparation. The tiny 'dry plates' last a long time, and the photos can be enlarged so as to give a fair sized picture. That is only one among the many development of the photographic art, another of which is to be found in the recent

attempts to reproduce natural colours. This is attempted by acting on a red salt called photochloride by various other chemicals which change its colour. The experiments in this direction are hopeful, but only certain colours, such as red and lilac, have been reproduced as yet."

Why should not our smart Prefect of the Town Police be asked to introduce this miniature photography into his Force, commencing with the detective branch? It is a snug easy post on which he is perched. That was demonstrated beyond doubt during his flight to other latitudes and longitudes, when the great metropolis was governed in this department by an amiable boy. Now that the Court of Bengal is pure, the Police have been relieved of the more delicate part of their responsibilities—none the less onerous for being secret—in the demi department. One of these not overfine days we may find the poor Prefect reduced to preach as a Salvation Armist from very *ennui*, if not also yet by way of penance for Police sins. Under the circumstance, he may as well learn photography or Poshtu or Greek. Anything to keep these precious Police birds employed.

SUBTERRESTRIAL disturbances of intensity are becoming rather common. Formerly, the destructive freaks of Nature in this line were almost confined to Central and South America. The calamity of Lisbon is historical, but the destruction of man and his works on such a scale is rarely heard of in the Old World, at any rate, in the olden parts. Of late years, there have been symptoms of—if we may use the word in such a connection—abnormal activity in Java, New Zealand and other regions. There have been terrestrial commotions in India too, from Cashmere to Bengal and Cachar and Assam. At one time, a few years back, in some of the parts of these countries, the shocks of the ground were so constant and so serious as to cause a chronic sense of insecurity, and several people actually abandoned home and family to retire from the world to pass their remaining days at Benares or other shrine. Still there had been no case of wholesale destruction of life or property—no massacre—*en masse*.

It is now from China that we hear of catastrophes that recall the earthquake of Lisbon or the destruction of Quito or Lima. The people of Yunan and the neighbouring Provinces must be in consternation. At first heavy shocks were felt throughout them, which continued for four successive days at Shikh Ping Chou, the sudder station, destroying the city, killing 5,000 men, women and children, and injuring many more thousands. The sudder station of Lin An was equally reduced to ruins, and the inhabitants killed and wounded. So at Sechuan and other towns and villages. In Lin An the earth split and a spring of reddish liquor—blood the simple might think—issued.

LORD DUFFERIN has shown his usual generosity to the Music School of Raja Sourendra Mohan Tagore, who lately lent himself to be a cat's paw of the miserable conspiracy of a disappointed journalist to prevent the farewell demonstrations in honor of the Viceroy and his good wife. The Musicians, headed by their Adhikari Tagore, shouldered their instruments and waited upon His Excellency at Government House, and, after performing before him and his family, presented a parting address to Lord Dufferin. His Lordship briefly replied. It will be remembered that the Raja had given as a reason for his mischievous attempt—at the egging on of the wire-pullers—to discount the Dufferin meeting by anticipation, that he was no politician himself but a mere musician, that he did not understand public affairs but only cultivated harmony. If Lord Dufferin saw the Raja's performance in the unfine art of political discord, he was not likely to forget it. If he did see and remember it, there was no bitterness in the recollection. His reply was cordial.

"Gentlemen,—I need not say that I am very much touched by your kindness in presenting me with so friendly an address, and particularly for incorporating it with this interesting performance. I am always anxious to promote harmony, whether in the political or in the artistic world, and with this object, if you will allow me, I will place at the disposal of the Academy a medal to be competed for, under whatever conditions it may be determined. I must not forget to return you my especial acknowledgment for the kind manner you have alluded to Lady Dufferin, and it is, indeed, a great pleasure to me to have established relations of such firm personal friendship with your distinguished President, to whom great credit is due for the liberal patronage he is always ready to extend to the art you cultivate."

It was probably with an insinuating but agreeable reference to the Raja's own avowal that his Lordship said that he too "was always anxious to promote harmony, whether in the political or in the artistic world." His Lordship did not content himself with verbal protestation, but gave substantial token of his sentiment by giving a medal for competition among the students of the school.

GENERAL BOULANGER, the fire-eater who would square his country's account with Germany and chafes under the pusillanimity of his countrymen, who are not prepared to embark on the hazardous experiment, has, we see, been elected to the Chamber. For the peace and prosperity of France, we had hoped to see him snuffed out. The man is a firebrand and has been permitted much too long to compromise the nation. And now he is sent to Pavliament to ventilate his quarrels and—what is far more serious—to precipitate a political catastrophe!

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1888.

THE DUFFERIN DEMONSTRATION AND MALCONTENT CRITICISM.

WE are come upon strange times, when respectable and able papers like the *Hindu* and the *Tribune* consider such utter rubbish as the following of the *Indian Mirror's*, worth laying before their readers with four introductory lines of their own:—

"We do not know whether all these names have been correctly described by our contemporary, but we confess we find a difficulty in identifying "Babu" Durga Churn Law, and Sumbhu "Nath" Mukherji. Excluding Behar, Orissa and Chota Nagpore, we have about 27 Districts in Bengal proper, and the Hindu inhabitants of 27 Districts as well as of the metropolis have been represented by twelve gentlemen, ten of whom are residents of Calcutta and its suburbs, and two—the titled son and the plain father—of Utterpara, almost within a stone's throw from Calcutta. We tremble to think if such representatives of the Hindu population of Bengal proper be always accepted by Government in all matters."

Such petty tricks are worthy of the *Mirror* (which, by the way, is said by its own kind friends, including the great Surrender Not, to have lost its head, if it ever possessed one) and are of a piece with its whole desperate game against the voice of reason and moderation. But why should those who are capable of better things, be deceived by them? What temptation is there for our other contemporaries to commit themselves to even seeming endorsement of transparent foolery and rancour?

The *Mirror* has been sorely tried. Having helped, by its unprovoked ferocity, to swell the triumph of the Viceroy, it proceeded to prove, in its characteristic way, that there has been no triumph at all. By the application of its diminishing lens, it was easy to show, to its own complete satisfaction, that the demonstration in the Town Hall was nothing in particular. Unable, either by private cajolery or public bullying, to prevent the meeting, it took to analysing the attendance and descended to sneer those that formed it down to nothingness. And the above passage is the precious result.

That passage itself will not bear analysis. The writer does not perceive that his first sentence is guilty of suicide. The two clauses clash one against the other, exposing his pretence and destroying his own credit. It were tedious to notice the peculiarities of expression of our contemporary. We leave to the Padishah, who, for want of possessions and possibly in quest of pennies, has got himself installed in the columns of the *Mirror* as "Aristarchus—a mere word-catcher that lives on syllables—what is meant by "names" being "described." For our part, we remark that there are two different confessions in that sentence, not different only but even contradictory. First, the *Mirror* confesses that it does not know whether or not the names of those who are enlisted as present at the meeting are correctly given—or correctly described, as the *Mirror* incorrectly puts. Then comes the professed confession—so called—that it finds a difficulty in identifying "Baboo" Durga Churn Law and Sumbhu "Nath" Mukherji.

The suspicion of inaccuracy in the description of the names with which the writer starts, exposes the succeeding affectation of difficulty in identifying the two names singled out! Even without the introductory clause, who would be deceived by such a flimsy pretence? Was the *Mirror* really put to such difficulty? Are the two men so very obscure as to be utterly unknown to the *subjunta* journal? Were "Baboo" and "Nath" such stumbling blocks? Did it find any difficulty in identifying the late Chunder Sen? Is it able to identify Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee? Is Mr. Surendra Nath Banerje a different person? Who then is the firebrand who has earned the name of Surrender Not? And who is his *alter ego* ycleped No-render-to-Cæsar Sen? Are not "Durga Churn Law" and "Sumbhu Mukherji" enough for comprehension, with or without "Raja" in one case and with or without "Nath" in the other? Does the usual title of the gentry of Bengal, "Baboo" before the name of a Bengalee gentleman who yesterday became "Raja," or the introduction of the nominal trifle or surplusage of "Nath" or its substitution for "Chunder" in another name in which the initial and the patronymic designations are correctly given, make it so that no *fellah* can understand? That indeed is a confession of something inherently rotten in the state of Denmark in the upper storey! This crave for accuracy is a new hunger in a paper which, besides its emanations of the mind and heart at work on it, is notorious for its blunders, typographical and verbal. But the very fact of our contemporary distinguishing the words "Baboo" and "Nath" by inverted commas proves his pretence—amounts to a virtual confession that the writer had no difficulty in identifying the names in question, and knew perfectly well who were meant. Thus the *Mirror* is convicted out of its own mouth of a paltry trick having for its purpose to run down a movement of many of the most respectable and highest in the land. And does it not feel the lash on the *Indian Mirror* when the Calcutta *Mirror* simply is punished for its delinquencies?

Had there been any "chaffing" in the matter, the thing might pass. Had there been the slightest suspicion of liveliness in the profession of difficulty of identification, it might be legitimate, inverted commas and all. But the *Mirror* is innocent of fun, nocent or innocent. It is nothing if not serious. It avows its unhappy weakness. It is proud of its propensity. It is *prima facie* lugubrious lackadaisical to the last degree. The Mahatma who guides it, is great Grim himself—though curiously enough a jesting Pilate of a Padshaw has taken protection behind his ægis. He is melancholy personified: Any tyro in Lavatar might see it. He is Burton's Anatomy in living human morocco, nurtured on Young's Night Thoughts.

In the same spirit and by the same method, the *Mirror* goes on to reduce the size and importance of the meeting. Professing to go upon facts and figures, it coolly throws out the assertion that only twelve men represented the whole of the 27 districts of Bengal. Here is genius to be sure! This is statistical manipulation with a vengeance. The shade of Whateley must bow its head before this competitor of his fame who has succeeded in casting a doubt on the reality of a great public demonstration of thousands. That great meeting shrinks under the *Mirror's* magic wand to a thing of less substance and significance than one of Brother Surrender Not's mass meetings.

THE AGITATION IN UPPER INDIA.

WHILE the practised eloquence of Surendra, the calm words of mature statesmanship of Sir T. Madava Rao, the Grand Old Man, the sympathetic utterances of Mr. Norton heralding as if it were the message of peace and good-will among the subject-races, the proffers of friendly co-operation of Mr. Chester, the adroitness and humor of Babu Bipin Chandra Pal, the seemingly phlegmatic yet earnest address, learned and thoughtful, of Pandit Bishen Narayan Das, and last, though not least, the light and leading of Mr. Buruddin Tyabji with all the grace and wisdom of a practical administrator—while all these at the Madras gathering are still ringing in our ears, grand and active preparations are already in progress for the forthcoming Congress at Allahabad. As regards the three past Congresses at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, it must be conceded that the people of these centres of education and enlightenment were in a great measure prepared and only required *rousing*. Contrariwise, the United Provinces is a veritable Sleepy Hollow—an inert mass to be reduced to working material by the rather unnatural processes of platform oratory and by that yet more potent educator and civiliser of mankind, the Press. And the leaders of thought and action there, we understand, are just now busy sweating their brows and taxing their brains in extracting high-pressure work of both of these. Against the “pugilistic oratory” of the Sage of Aligarh, now only the shadow of his former self, that “combustible patriot” of Allahabad, the Hon’ble Pandit Ayodhya Nath, has thrown in all his weight and energy for the Congress movement. An influential Reception Committee has been formed, and otherwise the infant prodigy of three years called into being as a natural result of the silent mental renaissance of English education, as the French Revolution was, in part at least, of a similar literary movement in the 18th century is being nourished and cherished. Gentlemen of the long robe and the press are specially active, and the aims and objects of the Congress are being discussed and explained in public meetings at the chief centres, notably at Allahabad and Lucknow. It must be encouraging to the promoters of this national movement, that their labors are already bearing fruit: the Congress is the topic of conversation of all, the rich and the poor, the high and the low, the “loyalist” and the “anarchist,” from the highest official to the lowest court ‘prentice. And if the Muhamadans as a body are not in active sympathy with the movement—not as the result of the wild declamations and the *zihad* against the Congress proclaimed by the Aligarh Prophet of disunion, but as the natural and necessary result of the admitted ignorance in which they are still steeped, of their inordinate desires to please, at least not to displease, the powers that be, and of the foolish way in which they are patted on the back by the Government officials—they are not arrayed against the movement in active hostility. In fact, as a body they have not as yet learnt to take any interest in measures affecting the weal of the country; they lack public-spiritedness. And if there is the Syed of Aligarh unreasonably against the Congress with his small clique, because forsooth they are taken care of, all kith and kin, by the Government, the sons and grandsons, nephews, *protégés* and followers of the Syed, there is the redoubtable Oudh Taluqdar, Sheikh Raza Hossein Khan, President of the Rifah-i-Am (Association), who can take a broad and sympathetic view of the present political situation. Somehow or other, that advocate of the heaven-born Service, the incorrigible *Pi*, the self-styled champion of the nobility, compromised with his conscience not to publish the rejoinder of a true scion of aristocracy to the heated effusions of a waif who began life on a salary of Rs. 10 only. The inconsistency of Sir Oracle of Allahabad is on a par with the advocacy of the Aligarh Sage in behalf of the hereditary nobility! Verily, in these days we hear things only to be contradicted! Well this is the nobleman who, it will be remembered, soon after the second Congress at Calcutta was over, delivered a sympathetic speech at Lucknow, in the course of which he refuted the assertion that the Mahammedans are not in sympathy with the movement,—by undertaking to collect, if necessary, the signatures of 50,000 Mahammedans in favor of the Congress. But it was enough that the respected Sheikh Sahab had praised the Bengalis to ensure his rejoinder being consigned to the waste-paper basket. The activity with which pamphlets and leaflets are being issued from the two contending parties of the Mahammedans for and

against the Congress, of which the Hindus are the silent spectators, bespeaks their political education. The bulk of the Mahammedan papers have assumed an attitude of inoffensive neutrality, arguing that they are not yet themselves prepared for the reforms proposed by the Congress, but telling at the same time, in plain and unmistakable language, that it is criminal folly, to oppose it so vehemently as the self-seeking Syed does. It is an open secret now that the Syed has engaged the services of a band of political *fakirs* whose mission it is to preach the Gospel of disunion, to discredit the Congress by ludicrous concoctions and cobwebs of their brain.

And if there is the Syed assuming an attitude of uncompromising hostility to the Congress and the Bengalis, there are others also who cannot at all claim his respectful indulgence or his force of an apology for unreasoned and unreasoning opposition and who only betray their own folly by their unpatriotic actions. The half-a-dozen Mahammedan anti-Congress meetings which, after severe wire-pulling and under the aegis of the petty local *hussoors*, were held in Allahabad, Meerut, Mirzapore, Lahore, Jubbulpore and elsewhere—should not be taken to reflect at all the free and independent opinion of the Muhammedans; for, as we have said before, their attitude is one of inoffensive neutrality in the matter of the Congress. The intelligent portion of the Muhammedan community, led by high-minded men like Sheikh Raza Hossein and Munshi Sajjad Hossein, the spirited Editor of the leading Muhammedan paper of these provinces, the *Oudh Punch*, are, on the other hand, prepared to sink or swim with the tide of time.

Recently has started up a number of Hindu anti-Congress meetings at Lucknow. Their promoters have constituted themselves apostles of loyalty and moderation under the banner of the notorious, “glib, guttural and oleaginous” Munshi Newul Kishore. Their chief strength lies in Pandit Sri Kishen, Vice-Chairman, Municipal Board, and his client the Raja of Bhinga, who are alarmed at the rapid pace at which India is moving. Having conjured up phantoms of fear, they are now trying to remove them by *mantrams* within closed doors. They have taken up their cue from the Sage of Aligarh of rousing the religious prejudices and passions of the ignorant classes, and who will deny that a better and more effective, though foolish, method could not have been devised? What is to be wondered at that short-sighted officials do all in their power to set aflame their worst passions without even caring to reflect with what grave consequences the step is fraught. Have they ever reflected upon the seriousness of their course? Suppose, if by an irony of fate—and it is revolting even to assume it—these *dharmatmas* are arranged against them, and there is nothing extraordinary in it—and suppose they all join in strong phalanx against them—what a huge conflagration would they not make?

Nor are they all. There are the Taluqdars of Oudh who have met in solemn conclave and declared themselves against the united voice of intelligence of the whole country. Fortunately, on such a question, their opposition does not signify much. It would have certainly meant something if it were even the spontaneous expression of their free opinion. Only 29 of them met of an evening at the Kaiserbagh Baradari; and as yet nobody but perhaps Munshi Imtiaz Ally, the chief organiser of the movement and the faithful lieutenant of Sir Syed in Lucknow, knows for what special purpose they all met. Their resolutions, or with what ever other name they may be called, have not as yet seen the light of the day, and many present, we understand, are as yet totally ignorant of the objects with which the meeting was convened. Such is the history of the oppositions raised against the Congress. They do not signify much, but they have done a world of good to the Congressionists. For now by this opposition they are more than ever united in the closest bonds and have learnt the better to cherish the aims and objects of the Congress, and to strive with head and heart to realise the thousand and one good results that might flow to all from its success—a consummation devoutly to be wished.

The great activity of the oppositors, the silent and imperceptible way in which the promoters are carrying on their uphill task—all these speak volumes in favor of Indian progress, and we for ourselves regard them as harbingers of better days for our land. The National Congress is at once the embodiment and expression as also the means

of the political education of the people. And this is particularly true of the backward provinces. B.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

BABER.

III.

THE early life of Baber was a tissue of transitions and curious adventures. He was but a boy when he succeeded his father, Omar Sheik Mirza, in the Government of Firghana; for he had numbered only twelve summers. His patrimony of Firghana was small, but it was rich and beautiful, situated on the upper course of the Jaxartes. Baber loved his beautiful little Kingdom with an abiding affection, and in after years, even when ruling in India, remembered it with regret.

The days in which Baber lived, were the days in which might was right. The strong hand took and the strong hand alone kept. So it followed in almost a natural way, that two of his uncles should attack him, and try to seize his heritage, when he was barely seated on the Musnud. Ahmed Mirza of Samarcand, his father's brother, and Mahmud Khan, the Mogul, his mother's brother, besieged the boy king. Both these princes, however, entirely failed in their attack on his capital: and shortly after Ahmed Mirza died. He was succeeded in his Government of Samarcand, by his brother, who also died soon after, leaving the Government to his son Buisanghar Mirza. As usual in Eastern countries, confusion ensued. The confusion prevailing at Samarcand led Baber's advisers to look on it with a covetous eye, and they accordingly urged him to attempt its conquest for himself.

Baber was yet only a lad, being but fifteen years old; yet young as he was, his natural abilities were so great, that he was conducting the Government of his own little Kingdom. Baber then, at the instigation of his advisers, made more than one attempt to capture Samarcand, but his attempts failed. Failure, however, served, young as he was, to develop his character. He persevered in his attempts in an indefatigable spirit, and was at last rewarded with success. It is matter for surprise that he should have succeeded, when we consider his extreme youth and the meagre means he had at his disposal.

In obtaining possession of Samarcand, the capital of Tamerlane—from whom he was the sixth in descent—it served but as a finger-post, pointing to the sovereignty of all Transoxiana; but such a conquest, at such a period, Baber could have but little hopes of achieving. It was a difficult matter for him to maintain himself at Samarcand. The country around had been subjected for many succeeding years, to the tumultuary disorders emanating from undisciplined troops, both those of foes, and those of its hereditary rulers. The result was, that the country around was so completely exhausted, that Baber almost found it impossible to raise any revenue, by taxes, either in kind or in coin. Baber thus found himself with an extended dominion, but with empty coffers, and not having the "sinews of war" he was unable to pay his troops, who in consequence deserted in large numbers. These deserters naturally went back to their own country, Firghana, and were the means of spreading disaffection among the troops left there. This disaffection reached a crisis in open revolt, under the leadership of Ahmed Tambol, one of Baber's principal officers.

Tambol was a very wily leader, and shielded himself from the chief consequences of his revolt, in case of failure, by nominally playing a secondary part. He proclaimed Baber's younger brother, Prince Jehangir Mirza. This evil in his native Kingdom was sufficient to draw Baber away from Samarcand, which he quitted after a reign of only a hundred days. Baber had scarcely left his new acquisition when its inhabitants threw off their allegiance to him. Thus necessitating a new expedition to re-establish his authority.

Baber hastened on, with the remainder of his troops, to Firghana. Unfortunately he fell dangerously ill by the way, and survived with difficulty. This so retarded his progress, that when he recovered, he found that his followers had melted away, and his hereditary dominions were lost; for in the interval Ahmed Tambol had strengthened his position considerably. Baber now found himself reduced to the position of a refugee, and one would have thought, that as he was so young, this strait would have broken his spirit. It appeared chimerical to cherish any hopes of regaining pos-

session of Firghana. Baber's buoyant spirits, however, did not sink under the trial—he sought aid from his Mogul uncle, and with his assistance, which was at best slender help, attempted to recover his dominions. He made oft-repeated attempts; in some of which he had not even the help of this uncle, but had to depend on his own resources alone. If an attempt on Firghana failed, he tried an attempt at seizing Samarcand. At length, owing to continued perseverance and a disposition that would not accept defeat, he recovered Firghana. He was but a little time in possession, and had barely subdued the rebels, and put the affairs of the Kingdom into some semblance of order, when he felt himself attracted towards Samarcand through an invitation he received from the inhabitants of that capital. The temptation proved too strong for Baber when the invitation was repeated, with strong assurances of support. He accordingly left Firghana and marched for Samarcand, but before he reached it, he was informed of its having been seized and occupied by the Uzbeks, who were then a new people in those parts, and were beginning to found what afterwards became great dominions.

IV.

As soon as Baber had set out from Firghana, Tambol began to bestir himself and again obtained possession of it. Baber in seeking the shadow had lost the substance. By this calamity, Baber was reduced to such straits that he was compelled to fly, and eventually to take refuge, in the almost inaccessible mountains to the south of Firghana. While in this retreat, he received information that Samarcand was very slenderly garrisoned, as the chief of the Uzbeks, Sheibani Khan, had left it on an expedition. With that spirit for enterprise which was one of his most prominent characteristics, Baber determined to attempt to surprise that city. He accordingly set off with only 240 men, and approached Samarcand without his design becoming known. He escalated the walls; overpowered the guards; and acted with such boldness and rapidity, that he achieved his purpose. The fickle citizens of Samarcand also rose in revolt, in his favour, and massacred the Uzbeks wherever they were to be found. Meanwhile, Sheibani Khan received intelligence of this occurrence and returned with all speed, but he was too late, the last of the Uzbek garrison had been overpowered or killed, and the gates of Samarcand were shut against him. Sheibani quietly retired to Bokhara, but he only bided his time.

Baber, by being in possession of Samarcand, obtained the allegiance of the whole of Sogdiana, the inhabitants of which, one and all, declared for him. He reigned in undisturbed possession of Samarcand but for six months, when he was called to encounter alone the whole power of Sheibani. As soon as he heard that the Uzbek chief was preparing to attack him, he endeavoured to form, among the neighbouring princes, a combination, for offence and defence, against the Uzbeks. He failed most miserably in this attempt. In vain he represented their common danger, in vain he used every method of persuasion he was master of, he could not prevail on these princes to form an alliance with him, but was left to oppose alone his powerful foe. Though Baber was thus left to cope single-handed with an enemy with greatly superior force, he yet had hopes of success; and probably he would have baffled and thrown back the attack of Sheibani, through the vigour of his own abilities, had not the Mogul auxiliaries among his troops, acted with the basest treachery, and crushed all his possibly legitimate hopes regarding victory, in the battle he had accepted outside the walls of Samarcand. These Mogul troops, with base cowardice, withdrew from the battle at a critical moment, for the sole purpose of plundering Baber's baggage. The result of this desertion was a total defeat, and Baber had to retire, with the few troops that adhered to him, within the walls of Samarcand.

He now resolved to defend this city to the last extremity; he repelled many assaults of the enemy. The Uzbek chief had then recourse to a blockade, and so strict was the watch he kept round the devoted city, that in four months he reduced the besieged to suffer all the miseries of famine. Death reigned in the city and the sufferings of the people were terrific. In addition to all this burden of ever present misery that Baber had to bear, was superadded the anxiety regarding the fighting strength of the place, through the desertion of the soldiers, who began letting themselves down

from the walls in great numbers. Baber shared in all the privations of the soldiers and the people, but he was at last compelled to evacuate the place.

Babers' history for the next two years is a very sad tale, the privation and distress he endured, was indeed, very great; and probably could not have been borne by many men. He was so reduced in circumstances that his very servants forsook him, in fact he was perfectly destitute. It would have been a bold prophet who could have forecasted the man's future glory and greatness, while seeing him wandering about the mountains, in an almost aimless way, or visiting at his Mogul uncle's camp in the guise of a pensioner. So great were Baber's trials, that his wonted evenness of temper, and his bright cheerfulness forsook him, giving place to despondency; and while in this mood, he actually determined upon retiring into China and passing the remainder of his life there in obscurity. But just at this critical juncture in his life, his prospects brightened for a short space. He succeeded through the help of his Mogul uncle in recovering Firghana, where he was joined by his brother Jehangir, who had up to this time been his nominal rival.

The ousted Tambol in his strait called in the aid of the now formidable Uzbeg. Baber was overpowered after a desperate conflict and compelled to fly, and so closely was he pursued, that his companions, one by one, fell into the hands of the enemy, and he himself was overtaken by two soldiers, who at first seemed willing to listen to his arguments and entreaties and come over to his side, but eventually they betrayed him to his enemies, from whose power he regained his freedom with the utmost difficulty. His condition was now as hopeless as it could be; he had not even his Mogul uncle to look to for help, for this relative had been defeated by the Uzbegs, and was a prisoner in their camp.

Sheibani, the chief of the Uzbegs, held sway over the whole of Transoxiana, except a small part annexed to Bactria. Baber tells us, that at this time his mind was so much depressed, that he shed many tears and wrote verses of a most melancholy character. We must remember, that he was yet only three and twenty years old, though he had done and suffered enough to fill a long and eventful life; but Baber did not sink under his trials, as other men might have done, his cheerful temper made him rise superior to his position, buoying him up, and enabling him to enjoy the present and look with favourable hopes to the future. Baber summed up his present position with the conclusion, that the best course for him to pursue now, would be to leave his native country of Firghana, as all his hopes regarding it had been extinguished. He therefore bade a last farewell to it, and set out to try his fortunes in new scenes, beyond the range of the Hindu Coosh.

JAMES H. LINTON.

MOORSBEDABAD.

April 14, 1888.

Outbreak of cholera having been reported from all parts of the Province, especially from the suburbs of the metropolis, where it has of late been causing fearful havoc, it has been surmised that, apart from all other attendant circumstances, it is mainly due to the impurity of the drinking water, wherein germs of poisonous matter are found to be infused. The municipal board of the Suburb, in their last meeting, Resolved either to buy pure water from the Calcutta Municipality, or, in the event of the latter not allowing it, to excavate fresh water tanks and to purify the water of the ponds already overgrown with weeds. Such a step, will, no doubt, be, to some extent, conducive to sanitation and hence the decrease of the disease. It is a pity that similar sanitary precaution has not as yet been adopted by the mofussil Municipalities, which are annually visited by such diseases as small-pox, malarial fever and cholera, the dangerous offsprings of impure, undrinkable water. Not even a year has elapsed since the tremendous ravages caused by cholera at Berhampore Khugra and in the suburban parts of city Moorsbedabad. Needless to say that it was due to the unwholesome water of the river Bhagirati, passing by the places which becomes disconnected, from the main stream, at Sootee by extensive churs in the summer and winter seasons, thereby stopping the current as far down as Cutwa, the extreme North tide-point of the Hooghly. In places in Moorsbedabad and Berhampore, it is wholly dried up so far as to put a stop to navigation, and where there is water of normal depth, it is overgrown with rank vegetation, accumulating debris &c., and rendered undrinkable by nauseous stench, produced from rotten plants and bones. It has recently been discovered, says a local journal, by chemical analysis, that the

water below Sydadab has been found to contain animalculæ and decomposed elements of animal body, which may tell fatally upon human health. Is it impossible for the advocates and representatives of local self-government to discover a remedy to this? Are they thus to govern their people who are to pay and to suffer? Cannot this city and the Head-quarters which yet boast of *Chhota* Nazim and Nizamut, Nawabs, Begums, Khanums, Maharajas and Maharanis, Rajas and Ranis, Khan Bahadurs, Roy Bahadoors, Maulvis, Maulanas, Moonshis, Pundits, Vakeels, Mooktears and wealthy eunuchs, &c., afford to pay for the removal of the sand heads at Sootee, or for the excavation of tanks at suitable centres for the supply of fresh water, or the establishment of Water Works similar to those already opened at Dacca and Bhagulpore? Yes, it can: but where are the movers and men to accomplish the deed? Meeting managers, Resolution framers and -passers and thank voters are not the persons, for such a laudable project. It needs men of no higher merit and position than those with perseverance, energy, sympathy, such as Babus Pran Kumar Das, Purna Chandra Mozoomdar and Jugeshwar Sircar. Not far distant is the ruin of this old historic capital of Bengal. The wealthy residents of this old metropolis with slight pretensions to Western knowledge are, as a rule, hankering after empty name and title, without feeling for a moment for the poor ratepayers; woe to the municipality of this place which lags behind others in point of sanitation, improvement, &c. Babu Pran Kumar Das is about to be transferred from here to succeed his father in the Excise Department under the Board of Revenue, as Deputy Commissioner, on higher pay. His transfer will be greatly felt by the people who are much indebted to him for the establishment of several institutions of public utility---such as Kumar Ranjit Singh's Victoria Jubilee Hall, Nawab Bahadoor's Midwifery Institution, Jubilee Tank, Technical School and Jubilee School at Azimgunge. During his chairmanship here, the hooded cobras were all under constant check. The Lawyers' bull of the Berhampore bar having influenced the present chairman, got an increment for the medical officer of the Lalbagh Charitable Dispensary and the post of the present Jeagunge Assistant-Surgeon will be abolished very soon, to the great disadvantage of the poor patients of the locality. And one Madhoo Soodan Chakravati, a twice dismissed overseer of the Municipality, against whom some 20 charges stood, has been reappointed.

Several Commissioners are about to tender their resignation, if the work of the Municipality continues further as it does now. Mr. Livesay, the Executive Engineer, Nuddea Rivers Division, has already resigned his post as Municipal Commissioner and several others will follow suit sooner or later. People are much dissatisfied with the new chairman.

A. M. T.

MONGHYR.

Jamalpore, the 16th April 1888.

About half a dozen cases of fires, breaking out in the environs of Jamalpore, have come to my notice, one of which is especially noticeable. A fire broke out in a thatched house in Kesubpore close to the station, where 2 young Beharee girls were asleep with closed doors. The parents and neighbours tried to extinguish the fire which was blazing furiously, being helped by the midday Westerly wind, but unfortunately could not manage to bring those young ones out in time to save them, the elder of the two meanwhile got her body thoroughly burnt and the other partially so. The former was immediately removed to the Hospital but expired on admission, and the latter the day after.

The cause of this constant fire taking place, especially at this time of the year annually, is ascribed to accidents and to incendiarism. I have reason to believe that it is more the latter than the former and wish that the Police kept a sharper look out for the offenders.

Mr. Editor, you can well imagine the fate of those unfortunates, who have been destined to live, of course through necessity, in this part of the Province, more especially during mid-summer.

The Monghyr public, after the example set by Jamalpore, is going to celebrate another Barwaree Poojah shortly.

The want of a shed for accommodation of dying patients close to the river bank at Monghyr was for some time past keenly felt by the Hindu public (both of Monghyr and Jamalpur) at large, and notwithstanding several representations made to the well-to-do Beharees of the place from time to time, nothing could be done in the matter. I am now able to inform you that the matter after all has taken a happy turn. Babu Raj Kissen Singh, a member of the well-known Dabepur Singh family, has gladly undertaken to defray the entire necessary cost of such a shed. This no doubt is a laudable undertaking and will remove a desideratum long felt by the native Hindu public, more especially the Bengalees. The Babu deserves thanks for this act of public utility and charity. A petition has been made to the Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division for a site for the proposed building for *Gunga Jattrees* on the river bank at Monghyr.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

The following subscriptions have been received :—

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Total	55,285

Further subscriptions are invited and will be duly acknowledged in the papers.

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Calcutta, 20th April, 1888.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair mail of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "We serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

SALE OF IRON PADDLE STEAMER.

TENDERS for the purchase of the Madras Government Steam Tug *Madras*, built at Blackwall by T. A. Young in 1876, will be received by the Port Officer at Madras, up to noon of Tuesday the 1st May 1888.

2. The vessel will be sold at Calcutta with engines, boilers, masts, sails, awnings, spars, anchors, cables, boats, and such other stores as may be on board on the 30th March and which will not be removed previous to the sale.

3. Each tender, before being opened, must be accompanied by a treasury receipt for a sum equal to 25 per cent. of the amount offered, and the balance must be paid within 48 hours of acceptance of the tender and before delivery is taken. The tenders will be submitted to the Government of Madras for orders.

4. The vessel will be at the risk and charge of the purchaser from the date the acceptance of the tender by Government is communicated to him.

5. The following description of the vessel is believed to be correct, but any errors or misdescription shall not annul the sale, nor shall any compensation be allowed on that account:—

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Where built	... At Blackwall.
Extreme length	... 123 feet 4 inches.
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Boilers One multitubular.
Horsepower indicated	137.
Do. nominal.	75.
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6. The vessel will be open for inspection at Calcutta on applying for an order to the Deputy Director of Indian Marine on or after the 30th March 1888.

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Madras Port Office,
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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1888.

} No. 321

TO FREDERICK III.

*Translated from the French of M. François Coppée's poem
"L'Empereur."*

Till when the end? Great Kaiser, who shall say
If in a year, a month, a week, a day

Thou wilt yield up thy breath?

Calm, thou hast faced, upon the battle plain,

As, calm, thou waitest on thy bed of pain,

The dread approach of death.

Mid Russia's steppes and Oural's peaks on high—

From Breton Capes—to Heaven ascends one cry,

One universal prayer.

All hearts are with thee, throbbing with thy throes;

From each goes up—e'en from thy bitterest foes,

"O! Lord, the Kaiser spare!"

France above all; thy sufferings assuage

Her long wept woes, her hatred and her rage,

In this thy fateful hour.

Fired by past wrongs, we arm for conflict dread;

But mid war's blades, uprears its heavenly head

Sweet pity's tender flower.

Though unavenged Sedan, Lorraine, Alsace,

Though still we mourn our sons, though yet the grass

Grows o'er their graves, scarce green,

In thee, no more the victor of Sedan—

In thee, the suffering husband, father, man,

Our tearful eyes have seen.

Sudden the scene is changed. Thy mighty sire

Yields to the victor, Death; his paling fire

Is quenched in endless night.

To thee he cedes his glory, power, and wealth,

And lo! we see thee, with reviving health,

Arise, and stand upright.

The new-made Monarch bids a fond adieu;

Forsakes the flowers, the sunshine and the blue,

Sought on a foreign strand:

Back to the house of mourning and of woe

He speeds across the tempest and the snow,

Home to his Fatherland.

Silent thy voice, O sire of kings to be,

Yet fell disease must yield its power o'er thee,

When thou tak'st up thy pen,

To bid the stir of war and conflict cease,

Tracing a message speaking words of peace—

Peace and goodwill to men.

We held thee true. We deem fair as a dove

The dying eagle with the pledge of love

Grasped in his outstretched claw.

We said "Sweet peace descends with heav'nly beam,"

And poet like I dreamed a lovely dream,

And this is what I saw:

I saw thee throned in majesty and might.

I heard thee say, "O! history, ere the night

Hides this vain world from me,

One page upon thy records I will trace,

Shall raise my memory mid the human race

To Immortality.

"Germans and French with frenzy are distraught.

Gold, science, labour, every act and thought,

On war are bent to-day.

And one chance shot—so fierce their passions burn—

May peaceful citizens to demons turn,

And men to beasts of prey.

"I, King and Emperor, forbid the fray!

To me there yet remains another day:

Men still obey my word.

Tear up the bond that wakes this dread alarm!

Restore the Provinces! both sides disarm!

Lay down the gun and sword.

"Germans, restore those lands: no more contend!

Deep in our side a deadly wound they rend,

That soon must bleed once more.

Restore Alsace! To France give peace again.

Why through those gaping pores your life-blood drain

Yourselves may heal the sore.

"Let my last words be words of peace and love,

Ere from this world to the blest realms above

I wing my upward way.

Your useless guns, to melt, together bring—

Too few to furnish statues of a king

Who reigned but for a day."

I heard, entranced. Alas! my dream is o'er

For thou art dying, soon to be no more,

Beyond the surgeon's skill

Thou hast not torn the bond. Our friends, alas!

Thou still hold'st down in Lorraine and Alsace,

German against their will.

For ever? No! be battle first arrayed!

On both sides cast the gun and forge the blade!

Blow up the fires anew!

What though in battle meet five million men?

Germans and French in death grip locked? What then?

Millions! 'tis far too few!

This time be war fought to the bitter end,

Our last man to the slaughter we must send;

Eat our last loaf of bread;

France or the Empire sink in blood and fire;

The victor, too, perchance, himself expire,

Beside his brother dead.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Must such thing really be? O! God, how long?
Great king, they call thee wise, and just, and strong.
Is this thy latest word?

Must those whose sorrows we so long have wept—
Lorraine and Alsace—be for ever kept
In bondage by the sword?

God speaks by me, in trumpet-tones, and clear,
In whose dread presence thou must soon appear,
Who says "Thou shalt not kill!"
How wilt thou meet His wrath, in that great day,
If thou two nations urge to burn and slay,
Against His holy will?

Calm and serene will be thy sleeping bed,
If o'er thee, dying, grateful tears are shed
In Alsace and Lorraine.
Calm and serene—as night succeeds to day—
Their prayers shall speed thee on thy heav'nward way,
Who shall not pray in vain.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

It is said that a large island, Erbe, on the other side of Borneo, is missing. The master of the German brig *Albert Reimann* reports "that about eight A. M., on January 31, 1886, the position of the vessel being fixed by bearings of the Caroline Islands, he passed over the charted position of the island. The weather was clear and the sea smooth, but no trace of an island could be seen in the locality assigned to Erbe-Island."

On the other hand, a submerged forest has been laid bare.

"During the late violent storms in the Channel the sea washed through a high and hard sand-bank near St. Malo, nearly four metres thick, laying bare a portion of an ancient forest which was already passing into the condition of coal. The forest at the beginning of our era covered an extensive tract of the coast; but with the sinking of the land it became submerged and covered up by the drifting sand. Mont Saint Michel once stood in the middle of it. The forest had quite disappeared by the middle of the tenth century. Occasionally, at very low tides after storms, remains of it are disclosed, just as at present. It is believed that some centuries ago the highest tides rose about 12 metres above the level of the lowest ebb. Now the high-water level is 15½ metres above the lowest."

THE Pekin Oriental Society hints that the population of China never exceeded sixty millions. We should have thought as much. There were no reliable statistics when the old extravagant estimates were formed.

IN supersession of previous orders, it has been Gazetted that in future the tours of Sub-divisional officers shall not be shorter than 90 days, or still less in the small Sub-divisions such as Barrackpore, Dum-Dum or Uluberia.

A TELEGRAM from the Resident in Cashmir dated the 22nd instant reports that cholera is spreading in the city but not badly. The greatest number of cases was on the 19th instant when 39 fresh seizures were reported. Seventeen cases are said to have occurred up to 5 P. M. on the 21st. The death rate is small, being under 20 per cent. Cholera is not spreading in the valley but some cases have been reported from Uri amongst the workmen on the road. The Jamu and Banihal road is said to be free of the disease.—Press Commissioner.

THE visit to Europe has completely changed the Gaekwar of Baroda. He has been summering at the Nilgiris, but the blue mountains do not give him satisfaction. He must go to Europe again, to Switzerland for his health.

THERE will be a Levée at the "Viceregal Lodge," Simla, at 9-45, P. M., on Tuesday, the 22nd May, 1888.

MR. R. F. RAMPINI, Temporary Additional District Judge, 24-Per-gunnahs, and Mr. H. W. Gordon, District and Sessions Judge, Sarun, both of the Bengal Civil Service, are Gazetted to officiate as Puisne Judges of the Calcutta High Court.

THE Bethune Girl's School is affiliated to the Calcutta University in Arts up to the B. A. Standard.

THE next Criminal Sessions commences on Monday, the 7th May next. Nilmadhub has been committed for the murder of his father Khetter Mohun Mitter of Cornwallis-street. He has pleaded not guilty and has withdrawn his confession, and will be defended.

THE Half yearly Departmental Examination of Junior Civilians, Deputy Magistrates, &c., commences on the 7th of May.

THE Calcutta Medical College Session opens on the 23rd June.

FOURTEEN students have this time passed the first and nine the second L. M. S. examination. Of the first one is Bidhumukhi Basu and one Tha Do Oung.

BOMBAY had long since begun her protest against effete European medicine, when it started a Homœopathic Hospital with the help of our friend Mr. Jelovitz. Homœopathy too seems to have lost its first charm, and the protest has turned into a reaction in favour of indigenous methods. We learn that—

"On the invitation of Mr. Chaturbhooj Morarjee and others, a large gathering of the native community met in the bungalow of Mr. Damodar Thakursi Mulji, Beach Candy, when a paper was read by Bava Sahib, a celebrated native physician of Jamnagar, in Kattywar, recommending the Hindus of this city to establish a school and dispensary for giving instruction in the native system of medicine and for the sale of native medicines respectively—stating that the native system of treatment was most suitable to native constitutions. Mr. Damodar T. Mulji took the chair. Several speeches were delivered on the necessity for encouraging native medicines, and for the training of skilled native Doctors. On the motion of Mr. Shamji Raghooji, seconded by Mr. Khimji Jiva, a resolution was unanimously passed that steps should be taken for establishing a school and dispensary as suggested. An influential committee, including representatives of the various sections of the Hindu community, was appointed."

WHILE the pretensions of the British House of Lords have been challenged from within, a new and unexpected danger threatens it:—

"Lord Stamford, who a few years ago succeeded to the earldom of Stamford and Warrington, lives at Wynbeg, South Africa, in a wigwam of corrugated iron. At a period when his succession was very improbable, he married a black wife, and he now is the father of a very dusky daughter, Lady Mary Grey. Should he leave a son to succeed him, the chances are that he too may be many shades (physically) darker than his brother peers, for of course he would have a right to a seat in the House of Lords. Morally, he would doubtless be better than most, for Lady Stamford is a very good woman and devoted to her family."

As Dadabhi Nowroji is still active in England, and as Lal Mohan has not yet given up his dream, the Lower Chamber may any day be Babooised. But to incur the taint of Nigger blood in "our glorious nobility" and "our hereditary legislators"—the idea is too much to bear!

Native Opinion quotes from the *Bombay Gazette* a sentence of the Bombay Civilian Mr. H. E. M. James's *Travels in Chinese Manturia*, to wit:—

"I shall never regret having made it, not only because it was a real rest after prolonged desk work, but because travelling in China acts as a wholesome corrective to the somewhat despotic tone which service amongst Hindus is apt to impart to the Anglo-Indian."

SIR W. C. PLOWDEN, late of the Indian Civil Service, in which he was last in charge of the Census of India, lately took the chair at a meeting in London for hearing a paper on India read by an Indian. In the course of the discussion that followed the reading, one of the audience ventured to hint a suspicion against Indian loyalty. The Chairman gave a triumphant answer to the doubter. Said Sir Charles Plowden:—

"It has been proved over and over again that loyalty existed most largely in India. He would give an instance of native loyalty which had come under his own observation. At the time of the Mutiny a native Captain of Cavalry was with his squadron beleaguered in a fort in the Punjab, having with him three English officers. It happened that the man's brother had been hanged within a few miles of Delhi by one of our officers for disloyalty. The leader of the rebels who were besieging the party in the fort sent word to the Captain that his brother had been murdered by the English, and offered him substantial reward if he would surrender up the three English officers; he went to his commanding officer and told him what the rebels had offered him and said:—'I have eaten the Company's salt and I am loyal and faithful to you whatever may have happened to my brother.' He drove the rebels who were attacking them, and carried the English officers safe into Lahore. That was a conspicuous and not a solitary instance of the loyalty of which our fellow subjects in India are largely capable."

THE Lieutenant-Governor unveiled on Monday last the portrait of the retired Municipal Secretary Mr. Turnbull, subscribed for by his friends and painted by Mr. James Archer and hung at the Town Hall.

WE are afraid the writer of the Moorshedabad letter in our last has made a mistake, and in doing so caused pain in a respectable quarter. We have received a contradiction to his statement that, since the appointment of the new chairman, members have begun to resign beginning with Mr. Livesay, Executive Engineer, Nuddea Rivers Division. We are informed that the Chairman Kumar Banajit Sinha of Nashipur is on good terms with his colleagues, and that the Engineer member has not resigned, though, owing to his official duties, he has not been able to attend the meetings of late. We expect our correspondent to make the *amende*.

THE Doveton murder case has been committed to the Sessions.

THE Home remittances last week amounted to £340,900.

THE Lahore Correspondent of the *Eastern Herald* writes:—

"Some of the choicest animals and birds belonging to the late Nawab Wajid Ali Shah of Lucknow were brought here on their way to the Ameer of Cabul and there was a regular rush of visitors at the Lahore Station on Saturday last. It is said that the sale of platform tickets amounted to nearly Rs. 100."

We wonder if the *Mirror* finds any difficulty in identifying the "late Nawab" of Lucknow. That description is typical of Baboese, pure and simple, of Calcutta which our contemporary so well represents.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Queen-Empress had been to Berlin on a visit to her son-in-law, the ailing emperor. Her Majesty has returned accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg. The bulletins about the emperor's health are not so gloomy as in last week.

LORD DUNRAVEN has withdrawn his Bill for the Reform of the Constitution of the House of Lords, Lord Salisbury having undertaken to bring in a Bill to facilitate life-peerages.

MR. LABOUCHERE questioned in the House of Commons on the Hyderabad scandals. The Under-Secretary Sir John Gorst, not unknown at Hyderabad, replied that a Parliamentary enquiry into the conduct of the Nizamut ministers in regard to the Deccan mining Concession was not desirable, and that Her Majesty's Government could not interfere in the internal administration of Hyderabad. At the same time, if the Nizam asked for an enquiry, every assistance will be given him. Lord Randolph Churchill followed on the reply, pressing for a Committee on the London part of the business. The reply to his Lordship was reserved.

ANOTHER Minister of Native India has "bolted" after the French manner, so lately exemplified by General Boulanger. This time it is no "broth of a boy," however, but a venerable man. His Excellency Dewan Bahadoor Raghoo Nath Rao of Indore has come back to Madras. It is reported that he has neither resigned, nor been dismissed, nor has he received permission to leave Indore.

WE regret that our Central Indian contemporary the *Eastern Herald* was premature in announcing the retirement of Mr. Shyamaji Krishna Varma from Rutlam, on which our paragraph on the subject was based. His Excellency is still there. But the end cannot be far off, we fear. We hope the Maharaja will give him another chance.

WE are informed by telegraph that Mr. F. Henvey, the new Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, has reached Indore to take charge of the Agency from Sir Lepel Griffin. To-day Sir Lepel lays at Mhow the foundation-stone of Bhicajee Girls' School which Khan Bahadur Khory builds in memory of his late lamented wife. Mr. Khory also invests some money in Government security for scholarship to successful girls, styling it Sir Lepel Griffin's scholarship.

WHO is the mysterious magnate whom the *Indian Spectator* has unearthed under the name and style of "Maharajah Ajit Sing, the king of Marwarees and merchants of Khetri," and who, we are told, for the first time in his life, visited Bombay, and was received "by his subjects with loyal ovation"? If he has established a bank for poor agriculturists, he has done a right noble thing. If he advances money on agricultural improvements, he does even better. We hope our contemporary will procure particulars of these advances. They cannot, at any rate, be the myths that most of the remissions of lacs and lacs of revenue that we so often hear of and on the strength whereof many have secured titles and distinction, are. We are curious as to the rules and working of the bank.

The rest of the credits placed to his account, are complementary or complimentary. We hope infanticide had been effectually put down in Rajwara before Ajit Sing was born. The celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, in behalf whereof we are not aware of his having done anything in particular, was a matter of course. Not so the offer to the British Government of a subsidy of 500 men made during the Egyptian troubles. That bespeaks a loyal and ambitious chief. But has noble Ajit ignored the menace nearer home on the North-Western Frontier? Perhaps, his silence on this occasion, on which so many Princes and chiefs are vying with one another to show their loyalty for the Imperial Power, is meant for a protest against too much ado for nothing. That is an attitude which, even if it be not justified by the facts, is at once intelligible and intelligent, and not unworthy of a statesman. That a chief capable of it should advance the cause of civilisation, is nothing extraordinary.

But who is this valuable magnate? Is it the young Raja of Khetri in Rajputana? If so, how comes he in particular to be the "King of the Marwarees," even though he may loosely be allowed to be the king of the "merchants of Khetri"? If anybody is the King of the Marwarees, it is the Maharaja of Jodhpore. Jodhpore is another name for Marwar, where Marwarees most do congregate, though many are scattered about in more or less force in the neighbouring states. Even in a literary way, it is a misnomer to call the chief of Khetri the King of the merchants of Khetri. Khetri is no body in fact, even in Khetri itself—certainly, no King. He is himself a feudatory of Jeypore. We wonder how that Durbar regards the political activity of the sub-chiefship!

THE loan for the Hooghly bridge, connecting Calcutta and Howrah, having been paid off, it has been decided that the local tolls should be abolished and some terminal charges, namely on rice and grain, pulses of all sorts, seeds of all sorts and salt—be remitted. This relieves trade to the extent of Rs. 1,60,000, exclusive of Rs. 66,000 on wheat formerly remitted. There is a proposition also to make over 2 lacs from the surplus to the Calcutta Corporation, in aid of the proposed road from the bridge towards Sealdah. To give effect to these recommendations, the Hon'ble Mr. Macaulay has obtained leave to introduce a bill in the local legislature to amend the Bridge Act IX of 1871.

MR. CHARLES DICKSON, late Inspector of Audit and Accounts, East Indian Railway, has failed in his suit against his employers. He claimed damages to the tune of three-quarters of a lac, and Mr. Justice Trevelyan does not consider him entitled to more than Rs. 350, one month's pay, which had been offered. To complete his misfortune, not only has his suit been dismissed, but he has been cast in costs. It amounts to a hint to resort to that unfailing Pain-killer the Bridge of Sighs.

THE *Hindoo Patriot* of this week opens its article on the Deputation to Sir Stuart Bayley regarding the Municipal Bill thus:—

"Sir Stuart Bayley's reply to the deputation, that waited on him on Tuesday last has been received by the native public with an intense feeling of disappointment. It offers them stone when they wanted bread. They sought for sympathy, and they have been treated to what they cannot take to be other than keen sarcasm. They sought for help, and they have met with unkind rebuff. His Honor began with a profession of regard for the deputation that waited on him, but he falsified the profession by showing that all their representations were utterly worthless. He condemned the deputation for being 'too late,' when he knew well that the case was otherwise. The meeting which sent the deputation was held by way of a protest against the action of the Legislative Council, and could not be held until the action was an accomplished fact. An appeal could scarcely be filed until after judgment had been delivered in the lower courts."

Et tu Brute? We thought that this staid sober journal at least would have the sense to see, and the candour to say, that, under the

circumstances, specially at the time, the Lieutenant-Governor could not be expected to do more than he has done. The argument in vindication of delay takes one's breath away. According to it, the memorialists are self-convicted of being too early in the field. They ought to have waited for the passing of the Bill. But what shall we say of the strange misunderstanding of Sir S. Bayley's politeness?

THE *East's* Tangail correspondent relates an interesting case of conjugal fidelity and attachment in that Subdivision. A young girl, 14 or 15 years of age, by name Kamini, was the victim of a brutal attack with a large dao by her husband, a habitual ganja smoker, on account of some altercation between them. She was conveyed to the local Hospital for treatment, but the Doctor reporting her case precarious, the Sub-Divisional officer, Babu Girindra Nath Chatterjee, went to the hospital to take down her dying declaration. The ruling principle of a true Hindu wife was strong to the last. Her husband was still her god, here and hereafter, all vagaries of his notwithstanding. She rejected with scorn any proposition intended to do her justice by punishing the man. So far from complaining against her husband, she reproached herself for being the author of all their calamity. To the cautious questioning of Mr. Deputy Magistrate Girindra Nath Chatterjee, she answered—"I am come here not to bring a case against my husband but to get cured of my wounds. It is my own fault that I have been hurt. Oh! Do not give *him* any trouble; I so wish to see him!" The uninitiated reader has to be informed that it is by the third personal pronoun singular that a Hindu woman indicates her husband; it is highly improper for her to take her husband's name, or that of any of her relations of higher degree in both her father's and her father-in-law's families. The husband being brought before her, the poor suffering girl tenderly questioned him as to whether he had had his meals, and if so, what he had eaten and whether he had had any trouble or hardship to bear. Everybody was struck with the imposing grandeur of the situation—the nobleness of that country girl's demeanour and her stoical dutifulness to an worthy husband—and his hang-down head of late remorse. Here is a well-marked instance of the betterness of

Simple faith than Norman blood.

Such steadfastness is the glory of the wife everywhere and is especially the virtue of the Hindu wife. No external polish will compensate for its loss. At the same time it correspondingly augments the responsibility of the males.

That little incident at Tangail is a subject worthy of the poet. The husband has been committed to the Sessions. Meanwhile, we are glad to note that the wife is improving under the care of the Native Assistant Surgeon.

THE annual boating match between the two great English Universities came off on the 24th March. After a long course of favoritism towards the older institution, the fickle goddess of fortune went over to the other side and has been as partial to it since as she had been to Oxford before. This year her partiality knew no bounds. There was no match, strictly speaking. The advantage was all on one side—that of Cambridge. The experts had all predicted for Cambridge an easy triumph, and the event proved them right. Cambridge won quietly and by a great length. Oxford had no chance. Her *mallas* were no match for the *manjees* of the Cam. They were excellent at the oar, having undergone infinite drill and practice in general. They too rowed 42 to the minute, but then their opponents were picked men whose strokes went farther.

MR. BRADLAUGH is getting on famously, all round. Now that he has conquered the obstinate prejudice against him of the House of Commons, the courts too show a disposition to do him justice. He has been seeking redress for foul libel against the *St. Stephen's Review*. The defendants unblushingly admitted that the statement complained of "was written with but one view, and that was to support the Conservative party at Deptford and elsewhere." That was a fine justification for 'falsely taking away a man's reputation! It is hard to believe that it was actually put forward as a plea in a British court. It looks like a plea collusive set up on purpose to damage the Conservatives. The court, we are glad to read, took a proper view of the defendants' conduct. Both the Judges of the Queen's Bench denounced the conduct of the offending journal and the cool cynicism of the apology for it offered.

THE bench of the grandest human tribunal has lost its head. Chief Justice Waite of the United States is dead. The Supreme Court of the great Republic is a unique institution, next to Congress in dignity and scarcely less in importance. It is the arbiter of the different States and the interpreter of the Constitution of the Union itself. As the authority that can disallow any State legislation, it naturally labors under a prejudice throughout the vast republic. Under this disadvantage, it has to keep the peace between, and to give satisfaction to, some forty ardent self-governing communities. Fortunately, law, like the rest of the liberal professions in the country, is well stocked with ability and learning, and the chief court of the land has been worthily filled. The names of Chief Justices Marshall and Chase are pronounced with the highest respect in all courts throughout the world. Waite was a worthy successor of these great men. A thorough patriot and Republican, his great eminence in the bar pointed him out as the fittest man to plead the American cause before the Geneva Arbitration. He had no easy task of it there, and he had to meet such antagonists as Sir Roundell Palmer. He acquitted himself so well that when, soon after, President Grant had to find a successor to Chief Justice Chase, all eyes turned to Morrison R. Waite as the fittest lawyer and citizen to uphold the dignity of the judicial throne in the Republic and, as we have said, grandest judicial office on the globe. For the last fourteen years, he filled the post with conspicuous ability and independence. In a country in which no office is above suspicion, he passed unscathed; no breath of calumny touched him. In a nation distinguished for able lawyers, there might be others as learned and acute, but in a land torn by political conflict and steeped in party bitterness, his impartiality was as rare as it was invaluable.

His career may be profitably studied by the indifferent lawyers and weak men who fill the benches of our High Courts. These courts have not only deteriorated in talent but also in spirit. The very incumbents are—aging or what we don't know, but distinctly declining on a lower plane. Some fine reputations are in jeopardy.

MERCY but murders, pardoning those that kill, and we have never spared the people of Santipur which has ever been torn by internal dissensions, thus justifying the description of it by one of the wisest, brightest, (and shall we add?) meanest of Indian Civilians, as "the mis-called city of peace." But we take this opportunity of confessing our lurking fondness for the place. Santipur is a classic seat, one of the most ancient places in Bengal, distinguished for art and culture and sanctity. It is still perhaps the largest and most populous of our rural towns not being official stations. It has men enough and to spare, only few—too few alas! of the right sort. Hence its decadence. We are right glad to observe signs of a little leaven being at last applied to leaven the whole mass. For once, the Santipurians have, it would seem, dismissed all baser counsels, sordid views and vengeful feelings, and have realized that there is no salvation in matters municipal! For once, we have gathered grapes of thorns and figs of thistles! Variety alone gives joy,

The sweetest meats the soonest cloy,

and the Municipality having by degrees lost its youthful charms, the people of Santipur have sought a fresh field and pasture new. They have started a charitable society whose objects are to relieve the aged and the destitute and to provide for maintenance and education of pauper children without distinction of class or creed. Founded in 1883, the *Bandhu Sabha*—for such is the name of the society—has now for over four years ministered to the wants of the poor of the town—men whom the sun and moon do not light and to whom mother Earth is a step-dame.

When the Santipur people agree, their unanimity is wonderful, and the *Sabha* is, we are glad to see, a combination of the wealth, intelligence and education of the town. Indeed, we should not be very far from truth, were we to say that the Santipurian who is not a member of the society is no more a gentleman than the Nadiyaite, who does not own at least an acre of rent-free land being gift from Maharaja Krishna Chandra, is a Brahman. The Report shows that the income of the society, during the last year, derived from donations and subscriptions, amounted to Rs. 890-11-9 pies and the expenditure to Rs. 846-9-3 pies, besides it has Rs. 907-3-9 in the Savings Bank. That is a poor exchequer for such objects and at such a place, where there must be a good deal of misery. But anything for a beginning! Relief was administered last year to 88 persons, 34 of whom received monthly

pensions. Of course, the demands upon the society are daily increasing, and the funds at its disposal must be enlarged.

*The *Sabha* is said to have in Babu Kirti Chunder Roy an excellent Honorary Secretary. Why don't we see the Saviour of Santipur—we mean Mathuara Babu, on the committee?

THERE is a regular Rakshasi in Japan—a juvenile giantess of twelve years of age, eight feet high and weighing 14 stone less one quarter. These waifs and strays from Brobdignag must have great difficulty in finding in our diminutive world suitable partners in life. Here is an opportunity for poor Chung the Chinese giant, who sometime back had been the observed of all observers. There would be no fear of miscegenation or religious antagonism in the union of Jack Chinaman and Joan of Japan, while the eternal fitness of things will be maintained even to the verification of the proverb in the superiority of the grey mare over the horse.

MEXICO is more than in name New Spain. The conquistadors and colonists carried to the new world all their peculiarities and preferences. Indeed, the more barbarous customs which are gradually being discredited in the mother country, or are dragging a diminishing existence there, are mostly in high favour in Greater Spain beyond the Atlantic Main. Thus bull-fight—the domestic institution *par excellence* of the Spaniards—still flourishes in pristine vigour in Mexico. The fact is recalled to the civilised world by the news of a frightful calamity. So passionately fond are the people of the game, that, though orthodox Catholics, they do not scruple to have the bloody business on the Sabbath; it is indeed on Sundays that bull-fights are held. Perhaps a stronger proof of attachment is that the very prisoners in the state jails are humoured with the sight of the exhibition. The authorities meekly make arrangements for these unfortunates or enemies of society enjoying the spectacle, under proper custody. Such was the case on a recent Sunday, in the town of Celaya in Mexico, on the occasion of a bull-fight. It was a wooden house in which it was held, and the house was crowded to suffocation. One of the prisoners, in striking a match, set fire to the bull-ring. As usual, there was an immediate panic and a rush to the exits. The occupants of the higher galleries even jumped into the arena and hurt themselves, while a bull, bewildered by the novel scene, broke loose, attacked and impaled the unfortunates in the arena, on the horns of a pretty dilemma, completing the rout and confusion. Between the crush and the active hostility of Taurus, there were 18 killed, 68 badly wounded, some of whom are not expected to live, while over 150 escaped with simple hurt. When order was restored, the prisoners, from whom the fire originated, were nowhere. The astute rogues!

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1888.

HYDERABAD.

WITH the suspension of Abdul Huq, there is at last a glimmering of dawn at Hyderabad. It was a very bold step that the young Nizam and his young Minister took between them. Of course, they have the fullest support of the Viceroy in what they have done. It is in fact the Governor-General's doing, so far as any measure of internal administration of a native State may, without invidiousness, be so described. Yet full credit must be given to Mr. Howell. It inaugurates a new era in the Residency. The days of obscurantism and jobbery and the *noctes ambrosianæ*, enlivened by Shiraz and Burgundy, and Anacreontics and Sapphics—in word and deed—have gone by, we hope never to return. There will now be not only possibility of work but of good work at Secunderabad. Mr. Howell has begun well, and we trust he will continue the same straightforward course, without fear or favour, regardless even of repulse or temporary defeat. These he must be prepared for. Those who are interested in the present confusion will not give up their game without a struggle, and great and even desperate efforts will be made to

subdue the bear of a new Resident who means honest work. Meanwhile, we congratulate both Governments on the removal of an incubus which at once lowered British prestige and sacrificed Hyderabad. Great as the Governor-General is, his Agent in Native States is practically greater. If the Agent is obstinate, and able enough withal, he may virtually defy his principal. So long as Mr. Cordery remained in office at Hyderabad, there was little chance of a reform. At one time indeed there was hope, when the specific allegations of the *Statesman's* Correspondents, and our own representations, we may add, attracted the eye of Lord Ripon and he actually ordered the Resident up to Simla for trial as it were. That officer himself understood the full significance of the invitation. Awaking to his danger at last, he hastily dismissed of his *entourage* the worse lot that had most demoralised him, and began a change of personal habits before starting to meet the Great British Mogul in the mountains of the North. It was a superfluous caution, more due to a perturbed conscience than necessary for safety. There is no danger to a British Civil Servant in India, unless of a scratch. There is never a real fear of a fatal termination. A Civilian is like a cat with its nine lives. Mr. Cordery was at first received with coldness, but under the genial warmth of his classicism, and the influence of his plausibility and doubtless his friends' exertions, the viceregal sternness melted away. Everybody at Simla seemed to have been charmed. As if they had in the hills been all cultivating the sensuous side of Paganism—we mean Greek poetry and thought. Presumably, it was the effect of that fellow-feeling which makes us wondrous kind, and which is developed most in exile. In the enthusiasm of the unexpected symposia which "society" owed to the presence of so thorough a modern British Greek, the very logic of *prima facie* appearances was swamped. Not only were those who were *in* the Government of India talked over, and disarmed, but we ourselves heard those who were *out*, declare their newborn trust in the male syren. These good men went so far as to commiserate him for the unkindness of Nature in giving false testimony against him.

Thus was Cordery whitewashed. He returned to Hyderabad, if not quite as the Conquering Hero, at any rate considerably relieved, with a simple warning, by way, we suppose, of justifying the call to account in *propria persona*.

Thus was crushed the only hope that Hyderabad or its friends had ever ventured to indulge during the *régime* of Lord Ripon. The Resident did not plunge back into his old ways, certainly not to anything like their old extravagance, but he was as careless as ever, leaving everything as before to his subordinates. Major Trevor remained almighty. It was this officer who would have quartered his brother on the State and, failing in the attempt, forked out from it a fabulous sum for him. It was he rather than his Chief, who encouraged the intrigues which resulted in the famous double-barrelled Boy Administration—which was a huge joke to us but which was a serious calamity to the Deccan. Having created an impossible arrangement, the Thor and Woden

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Travellers to and from distant climes would do well to bear in mind that these changes and the altered diet and surroundings of their lives entail manifold risks to health. Occasions are sure to arise in which they will need a remedy such as these renowned Pills and Ointment, and no traveller by land or sea should ever fail to have a supply at hand. Then he may truly be said to have a physician always at his call for the various emergencies of travel. Chills and fevers should be promptly treated, and the printed directions should be carefully studied at the commencement of any illness, for Holloway's remedies can be safely used in all climates.

of Secunderabad did not take ordinary care to see it work. They did not simply leave it to die a natural death, but even hampered it so as to precipitate a violent end. They allowed the State to be fleeced, by all sorts of depredators. The juvenile minister was encouraged to enjoy the *otium cum dignitate* of an incorporeal hereditament—a family provision in reward for his father's services—rather than urged to fulfil the onerous duties of a most responsible and most difficult post. He was not restrained in his unworthy vulgar upstart ways. Nay, he was allowed to forget that he was not the master of the State, but only a servant occupying the highest office in it. He was not reminded of his duty to his Sovereign. It was the conduct of the Politicals—their openly demonstrated friendship for young Salar and their flattery of him at the expense of the Nizam, that inflamed the young spirit and turned the immature noddle of the premier *employé*, who regarded himself superior not only to the premier nobleman who had been his father's colleague in the administration, but also to the Nizam himself. He apparently thought that *his* Sovereign was Queen Victoria. He had formed European connections, notably with a great Parliamentary chief. So long as he maintained these, and so long as the Residency chiefs continued to break bread and drink champagne with him, he reckoned himself safe. Hence his atrocious behaviour to his master. While the Residency looked on, the breach between the two young friends, once so loving, went on widening. At last, the Nizam could endure the connection no more, and he complained to the Viceroy and asked to be relieved. Lord Dufferin listened with patient sympathy—it was the longest conference ever granted by a British functionary to any native Prince—and assured the Nizam that His Highness was master and Salar Jung was wholly at his mercy. At the same time, the British Government could not forget the services of Salar the father to both the Empire and the State. It was on this public ground, whatever the other forces at work, that Lord Ripon had raised the boy, at once as his father's heir and as representative of the Reform Party in Hyderabad, to the head of the Administration. Before leaving, Lord Ripon had expressed an earnest wish that young Jung might be supported. Lord Dufferin was naturally desirous to continue, so far as possible, his predecessor's policy, and carry out his wishes. Accordingly, the Nizam was requested to give him another trial. His Highness respectfully assented and loyally carried out his promise; but it was in vain. Although the minister was rebuked and warned to behave himself better in future, he practically gave no heed to the fatherly counsel. The differences between master and minister broke out afresh, while the administration drifted into the hands of the ambitious and the grasping, who made the most of their opportunities. The Sovereign could not look on like the Residency. He again strove to end the vicious *régime*. Still our Government's patience with their *protégé* had not been exhausted, and, at the instance of the Residency, as a last experiment, an English Private Secretary was given to the Nizam as the medium of communication between His Highness and the Minister. By procuring this arrangement, the Residency committed suicide, as it were. It was the introduction into the theatre of Deccan politics of a new and strange force with functions undefined and elastic, capable, at discretion or at any rate by indiscretion, of any expansion. It was a Frankenstein's monster which the

politicals assisted to raise, but could not lay down. It was a smart device, creditable to the ingenuity of its originator, for postponing the evil day. In any other court, it might have some chance. But at Hyderabad, the disease had gone too far to the very poisoning of blood of the body politic and administrative, for a mere patching up of wounds to succeed. Above all, it had no pretence of bringing about an understanding between master and minister, without which it was not peace but only an armed neutrality. It simply invited an ally who gradually usurped everything. At first, the new Mayor of the Palace, called Private Secretary, was content to secure his own position. But soon he espied the nakedness of the land and made himself all in all. During his noviciate, great was the joy of the Mehdi Hasans and Abdul Huqs, whose tool he submitted to be, for now they would have all pleasures of power and pelf without incurring any share of responsibility. It was these dry-nurses of the Minister who reconciled him to the introduction of the new element as a great relief to him. But soon there came an awakening. Directly the new functionary acquired some experience in his situation, the ministers and understrappers, premier and politicals, all discovered, to their chagrin and surprise, that they had played themselves into the hands of a formidable enemy in the guise of a friend who had quietly superseded them all.

As soon as the Residency saw it, it made the best of a bad bargain, by identifying itself with the usurper and reaping what advantages it could. At first, the Nizam was humoured by being allowed to call the Minister to account for some of his acts. This drove the latter from his post, which he left without leave or notice, to seek counsel of his friends in Europe. This was an opportunity for aggrandisement. A new Minister was appointed in the person of an irreproachable nobleman who was then away in England. Instead of waiting for him, a whole administration was cast, down almost to ministerial agency, by the usurpers in the spot and imposed upon him, even before he came back. His very Private Secretary was appointed behind his back. But since its Mahomedan Sovereign had to submit to a European Private Secretary of others' choice, Hyderabad had lost its sense of the sanctity of that very particular office. As might be expected, soon the new Minister discovered what a cat's paw this precious intermediary was making of both himself and his master. To the Nizam, his magisterial Private Secretary became unsupportable. In order to maintain his hold, with or without the Nizam's good will, the Secretary and his allies hit upon a grand idea which must come to the business and bosom of not only the Viceroy, who had devoted himself to strengthen the defences of the Empire against foreign attacks, but of all Britons, here or in the mother-country. This was the famous offer, professedly emanating from the personal solicitude of the Nizam, and announced with all the accessories for dramatic effect, of sixty lacs of Rupees towards the cost of the imperial defences, which was the signal for all the Princes and Chiefs to come forward in the same behalf. This has become a delicate matter to comment upon. The Nizam ought to have done the thing if he did not. He has certainly acquired no small honor for it and Colonel Marshall no little praise. But latterly, the Viceroy had, we believe, some reason to suspect the complete genuineness and spontaneity of the famous message conveyed in person by the grand Private Secretary. The success of Sir Thomas Rumbold in draining the im-

poverished State of a large sum on a frivolous pretence to which we, along with the *Statesman* and the *Pioneer*, pointedly drew attention, still farther strengthened his Lordship's doubts as to the fidelity of these European officers in watching the Nizam's interests. Imagine the viceregal indignation when inquiry disclosed the disgraceful way in which "Our Faithful Ally" was being treated. The questions, as we have said, were too delicate for further stirring up, but, we believe, His Excellency was for a clean sweep of the leading characters in the drama. Finally, both narrowly escaped—Mr. Cordery by application for furlough. For Colonel Marshall, it was urged that his appointment was only temporary, limited to a year and a half, and as the term would be soon determined, any disturbance of the arrangement earlier would prejudice the Colonel unnecessarily, the more so, as after the high credit but recently given him, Government could not stultify itself by singing to a different tune. But, though he was spared for the moment, he was sternly warned, if we are truly informed, to take care and leave off his pranks, and, above all, never to forget that he is only the Nizam's servant. At the same time, Mr. Cordery was rated for his weakness in giving in to Colonel Marshall. He was enjoined to remember that he was the Resident and to allow no one to supersede him practically, not even the great Marshall. He was to confine himself strictly to his rôle of adviser and friend to the Nizam and his Government. But, under the peculiar circumstances of the creation of a European Private Secretary, he was to see that Colonel Marshall did not ill use the Nizam.

Thus we have given a succinct and true account of Hyderabad politics during the last five years, with the exception of one notable episode—the Abdul Huq scandal. That affair, after having these several years been kept alive by our contemporary of the *Statesman*, is now ablaze. Too long has this astute ex-Police-officer played such fantastic tricks before High Heaven as makes angels weep, all the while gathering his pagoda harvests for himself and his confederates, until the recent strong attitude taken by Lord Dufferin in Hyderabad matters, which has freed the Durbar from the usurped dictation of the despotic Private Secretary supported by a weak Residency. The retirement of Mr. Cordery and the accession to the Residency of Mr. Arthur Howell have completed the emancipation. The new Resident was not pledged to continue the old abuses of the British diplomatic camp at Secunderabad, nor had he any temptations against loyally carrying out the Viceroy's policy. There is accordingly a distinct departure in the Residency attitude since Mr. Howell has taken office. Emboldened by these favouring auguries, the Nizam and his minister made bold to bring the hitherto irresistible Child of Fortune Abdul Huq to book. He was called to account for the latest of his numerous Loots at the expense of the resources and credit and honour of the State. He was to explain how he came to make money by disposing of mining concessions obtained by him from his own State, and how he disobeyed express orders about the issue of certain shares in a projected company. He gave a lame reply to some of the points and treated the rest with contempt. He has been suspended with the full approval of the Viceroy.

Meanwhile, the fall of Abdul Huq exercises the House of Commons, as it doubtless draws the sympathy of many influential British men and women. Mr. Labouchere's question could be easily evaded,

but Lord Randolph Churchill is not to be suppressed. In his Lordship's hands the Hyderabad scandal came in such a questionable shape that, for its own reputation, the Ministry must speak to it and speak to the point. Accordingly, Sir John Gorst took time to telegraph to the Viceroy. After receipt of answer, Mr. W. H. Smith announced to the House that Lord Dufferin had no objection to a Parliamentary inquiry. Suddenly Mr. Labouchere's motion revived. His demand for a Select Committee of the House for inquiry into the Mining Concession was accepted by the Ministry.

This is a most important victory. The Indian record of Parliament is an almost unbroken scroll of neglect and disappointment. The name of India is an abomination to British politicians. It acts as physis to the Houses in purging them of all their human contents. We do not remember if after Fawcett's Committee on Finance, the India Reformers have ever scored such a triumph. We hope the best use of it will be made by our friends. At the same time, it is but fair to remember that we owe it entirely to the Viceroy—the unspeakable diplomat Dufferin!

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

BABER.

V.

KHUSROU SHAH, at this time, held the reins of Government in Bactria, which used to be the Government of a paternal uncle of Baber's. This Khusrou Shah had murdered his late master (Baber's uncle) and usurped the throne, but he did not feel very secure in his exalted position, and therefore was desirous of conciliating his late master's relatives. From this motive he endeavoured to win Baber's good will, and invited him into his territory. It was not long after Baber's arrival that the whole of the Moguls withdrew from the usurper's service and offered their services to him. They were soon followed by the whole army and even Khusrou's own brother came over to his side. The vicissitudes attending Baber's life are well illustrated by the circumstances that occurred to him here. When he approached the Bactrian frontier, he had between two and three hundred men, many of whom were only armed with clubs, and two tents, the best one of which was allotted for his mother's use. It was *par excellence* the camp and following of an adventurer. When shortly afterwards he left Bactria, and set out to invade Cabul, he was at the head of a regular and well-equipped army. Baber occupied Cabul almost without opposition. He afterwards lost Bactria, which was recovered by Khusrou Shah, and subsequently conquered by the Uzbeks. His connection with the country beyond the Mountains was thus entirely cut off. He was now King of Cabul, over which country he reigned for two and twenty years, before his conquest of India. An army from beyond the Hindoo Coosh, pursuing Baber's line of march, at the present time, would not find it so easy a march as he did; the conquest of Cabul bristles with difficulties. The conquest of India would offer almost insurmountable difficulties, except if Afghanistan were in alliance with the invader, and even then, if internal insurrection could be avoided, the probabilities are the invading army would almost be annihilated. But the question is, Could internal insurrection be avoided? Many fear it could not be, and their reasons for supposing so are not chimerical. If internal insurrection is not a factor to be considered, India may laugh to scorn the threats of the Northern Bear; she may snap her fingers at an unfriendly or inimical Afghanistan. The whole question of warfare has not only completely altered since Baber's days, but the change within the past thirty years has been so marked, that to-day the entire question has to be discussed on a different basis, and from different data, to those even of a quarter of a century ago.

Baber though King at Cabul, had not yet attained to a state of repose. He was still surrounded by toils and perils, though they had assumed a different form and character. His title was defective and doubtful; he had no minister in whom he could place his full confidence and trust; his brother Jehangir had but lately joined him after being long in rebellion, and his presence was cause for disquiet in a

newly-conquered country ; and the last and most portentous of his troubles was his army, which was only an assemblage of adventurers, who were strangers to him, and most of whom had been traitors to their former masters.

During the first years of his reign, he conquered Candahar ; made expeditions into the mountains of the Afghans and Hazaras ; and a dangerous journey to Herat. On these campaigns, he ran the usual risks, and bore more than the usual hardships of war incidental to the common soldier, and once nearly perished in the snow, during a winter march through the mountains of the Hazaras. To add to his causes for disquietude, his brother Jehangir again rebelled, but was subdued and pardoned : his Mogul troops, while he was at Herat, broke into insurrection and set up one of his cousins as king ; this cousin was also defeated and pardoned ; but the climax of these troubles was reached when he returned to Cabul, and he was brought to the brink of ruin in that city. The Moguls who had come over to him from Khusrou Shah's army, tried to seize his person, and thus showed the first signs of disaffection. These mutinous Moguls failed in their attempt, but Baber was obliged to fly from Cabul, attended only by about 500 men who had remained faithful to him. On his flight, the rebels called in his cousin Abdur Ruzzak and placed him on the throne.

Now all seemed lost, and this was probably the darkest moment in Baber's life, a moment's despondency, or the slightest hesitation, at such a crisis, would have been fatal. But Baber rose to the occasion and showed himself equal to the circumstances. He led his diminutive army again and again to encounters, during which he exposed himself in the hottest of the fight ; he made up for his small force by the boldness and activity of his enterprises ; and at last retrieved his affairs, almost entirely by his personal courage and exertion.

Baber was unfortunately induced, owing to internal troubles, to attempt again the conquest of his former possessions. He occupied Bactria, made an alliance with Shah Ismail, and, with the aid of a Persian force, took Bokhara, and again obtained possession of Sumarcand. The Uzbegs, however, soon drove him out, and ultimately he suffered a total defeat and lost all his acquisitions except Bactria. We now come to the time in the life of Baber, when he turned his attention to India, and began those enterprises, which led to the founding of his great dynasty.

VI.

Baber burst into India at the head of a body of veteran troops, and his advance was like a forcible storm, sweeping all opposition out of his path, till he reached Agra, of which city he soon became master. Of the spoils of the conquest, he made singular use. He not only, as is usual on such occasions, distributed the treasures among his followers, but also thought of his subjects at Cabul. To every man, woman and child, whether slave or free, he sent a present, derived from the same source. Baber had ever an open hand.

Baber probably believed that his conquest of India was achieved through his possession of the capital, but he was soon undeceived with regard to this opinion. The people of India soon let him know *de facto*, how far his power extended, that is to say, only over a portion to the north-west of Delhi and the narrow tract along the Jumna to Agra ; and these he was in actual possession of. The whole of the rest of the country displayed a hostile disposition, nor did the Rajahs and Chiefs of those days remain long content to manifest passive opposition, but organized a combination for active resistance, which combination soon arrayed in the field a host against the invader. And this was not the only unpleasant awakening Baber had, for at this critical period, his veteran troops, men who had followed him uncomplainingly through all sorts of dangers and hazards, and shared with him the severe hardships of a soldier's life, now began to murmur in a mutinous way. As the children of Israel, under the pressure of the hardships of desert travel, murmured and uprose against Moses, as they longingly looked back to the dainties of Egypt, so these men, suffering under the extreme inflictions of an exceptional Indian summer, looked back to their cold native land with longing desire ; and as the summer advanced so did the sufferings of these men increase, till their desire for their native land became so strong that they clamorously asked to be led back. Baber, though surprised by the mani-

festation of such a spirit, nevertheless did not lose his presence of mind ; he acted with much tact ; he touched the right chords to obtain the response he wanted—he placed a mental picture before these men, so that the contemplation of it might so fill their minds as to leave no room for thoughts about, or cognizance of, their present trials.

Baber assembled his officers, and addressed them in spirited terms. He pointed out that the conquest of India was the object that had brought them there ; to go back now would cover them with shame and dishonour ; he would not move a single step back ; yet he would coerce none to remain ; if honour was not a sufficient inducement to keep them in India, all were free to go back. When Baber finished his appeal, his audience had so caught the infection of his spirit, that nearly all elected to remain. A few, however, adhered to their original resolution and asked for leave to go back. Among those was Khaja Kilan, one of his best officers. Baber showed no resentment at their resolve, but dismissed them honourably, appointing Khaja Kilan to a Government beyond the Indus.

From this period we find that success followed success, in Baber's career of conquest in India. Biana, Dhulpore, Chambal, and Gwalior soon submitted. These successes stirred up the combination of native princes that had been formed against him, to active operations, and an army marched on Agra, to give him battle. Twenty miles from Agra, at Sicri, the battle was fought, and Baber gained a great victory. A curious story is told regarding this battle. It is said that before the battle Baber's troops showed manifest signs of nervousness, which tendency was increased, till an absolute panic was produced among them, and this was accomplished through something worse than the stupidity of a certain Dervish from Cabul, who proclaimed aloud to the assembled troops that certain defeat awaited them that day. The man uttered this prediction with such assurance, that even the officers became infected with an undefinable feeling of fear, and could not maintain even an appearance of composure or firmness before their men. Baber seeing how unfitted his men were to be led into action, adopted the plan of addressing them, through their officers, in a few stirring words. He appealed directly to their sense of manliness and honour, and so well chosen were the words he used, in rousing their enthusiasm and producing a reaction in the mind, that the whole assemblage answered him with acclamation and an oath on the Koran to conquer or die. It was because of this crisis in his life's history, that Baber felt called upon to make some sacrifice, and accordingly he registered a vow to the God of Heaven, that should he gain the victory in the impending battle, he would, among other laudable acts, for ever forswear the use of wine. And he kept his pledge.

After the victory was gained, the audacious Dervish came before Baber to offer his congratulations thereon. Baber rated him soundly, and relieved his heart of anger, by pouring a torrent of abuse on the head of this, not only false, but mischievous prophet of ill. Baber called him a perverse, conceited, and insufferable evil-speaker. After delivering this tirade, Baber made the man a liberal present, but intimated to him that his future residence should be beyond the limits of his kingdom. We find that throughout his career Baber acted in a forgiving spirit, even when the offences against himself, or his rule, were grave. Hence we are the more puzzled to account for his feelings of aversion towards the Moguls, because it was at the hands of a Mogul that he received the greatest kindnesses that his life knew. It was his Mogul uncle who was always his friend in times of need. Baber continued from this point, to follow the tide of conquest till he had reduced Behar.

Baber was not yet fifty years old, yet doubtless his constitution had been sapped, through the exposure and hardships of his eventful life, for we find that he suffered from ill-health during the last fifteen months of his life. His diary has no entries for this period, and this indicates diminished activity, likewise interest in the affairs of life. This ill-health and listlessness pointed to the nearness of the end. Eastern tradition, however, assigns a different reason for his death. Tradition says he died because he substituted himself for his son. As has been shown, Baber had a most affectionate heart. Prince Humayun had become at this time very ill, and at last the physicians gave no hope of his recovery. Then the father took the desperate resolution of bearing away, on his own person, his son's illness, which

he did in this way. He walked slowly and sadly, according to the prescribed mode, three times round the dying prince's bed, and then spent a little while in earnest prayer to God, when it is supposed he felt assured in his heart, that his prayer was heard, and his vicarious offering accepted, and his son's disease borne away, for he exclaimed repeatedly, "I have borne it away," "I have borne it away." Could Baber have foreseen the manifold trials and sufferings that would encompass Humayun's life, his most earnest prayer to God would have been that the prince might die. How often does man in prayer thus blindly ask for those things which are but the seed of great future sorrows.

Strange as it may appear, Humayun forthwith began to recover, and Baber, who was already ill, began visibly to decline, and it soon became apparent that his end was nigh. But before the end came, he called his sons and his ministers around him, explained to them his dying wishes, enjoining them to live in concord, and particularly requesting his sons to bear one another a steadfast fraternal affection. Baber died at Agra in the fiftieth year of his age. His body at his own desire was buried at Cabul. Baber displayed admirable traits of character, both as a man and a king. He was certainly the most powerful prince of his time, yet probably the most affable and kindly in his manners. Baber had achieved his high station, through personal merit alone, and under the most trying circumstances. The obstacles in his path were always crucial difficulties.

JAMES H. LINTON.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

MOFFUSSIL MUNICIPALITIES.

SIR,—The vagaries of the local Municipal Committee have at last blasted all hopes of the native gentry here. Rules too strict and stiff, are, it is said, going to be introduced. Left the natives as they are in the palpable obscurity from the light of all the municipal advantages since many years past with all the taxes paid by them and often rewarded with fines on the least ground, the Chairman or the Municipal Commissioners deem it a burden for them, perhaps, to look to the interests of the native ratepayers. Formerly, the filthy water of every house was removed at the occupier's cost, when the Municipal authorities introduced a rule disallowing the filthy water to be dried up in the drain itself. From October last, the local Municipality has taken charge of the removal of filthy water from the vats adjoining the houses, &c. Objections having been raised for the stench these waters effuse, quite injurious to the health of surrounding inhabitants, the Municipal authorities have come to the wise conclusion of increasing the taxes, provided the English quarter be excluded and low classes of people be excepted. Taxes should be levied upon the measurement of the vat. A Bengalee has to pay a monthly tax of from Re. 1-4 as. to Rs. 2-4 as. or yearly from Rs. 15 to Rs. 27 besides other taxes. Further we have been told, that it has been proposed, that three roads in the English quarter would be repaired, whereas the roads in the native quarters which are in the worst state imaginable will be left out. Sound discretion no doubt.

TRUTH.

Jamalpur, 23rd April, 1888.

Of what impertinence are not little men dressed in brief authority capable? Courtesy is a commodity which costs us nothing, and yet there are not a few Indian Civilians who are provokingly niggardly in the use of so inexpensive a thing. A letter recently written to the Commissioners of one of the oldest and most considerable Municipalities in a Metropolitan District by the Magistrate, leads me to the above remark. The note in question runs as follows: "I think, however, that the Municipal Commissioners were foolish and weak in giving rewards to their Amlas for duties for which they are paid."

The Corporators written to as above are not wood, nor stones, but men, and since the smallest worm would turn being trod upon, it need hardly be said, that the foul language held to them by the Magistrate has outraged their sense of honor and self-respect. "Injury, Mr. Editor, may be forgiven but insult never. But I am ashamed to say that there are not a few lickspittles among my colleagues who are more Christian than Christians and who would be only too glad to turn their left cheeks to the smiter of their right ones. These gentlemen are for peace at any price, peace even with dishonor: They would rather bite off their tongues than bandy words with a Pasha. They say that hard words do not break bones, nay, are innocent as the passing breeze. But are they, Mr. Editor, becoming the representatives of Her Gracious Majesty, particularly when the premises on which they are based do not justify them? The fact that has been made a peg on which to

hang a tirade against the Commissioners is that we abolished the appointment of Cart-registrar for 6 months, effecting thereby a saving of Rs. 60 out of which the sum of Rs. 30 was paid to two clerks who so satisfactorily discharged the duties of the Registrar in addition to their own that the income of the Municipality from Cart registration fees was increased by Rs. 130, and instead of saying a good word for the Commissioners, the Magistrate plays the billingsgate fish-fag! I for one do not demur to the criticism of a District Officer; when honest and honorable, it never fails to produce a wholesome effect. But to use the language held by Sir Rivers Thompson to the late Hon'ble K. D. Pal, "can any criticism be conceived which is more dishonest and dishonorable" than the above? If I speak somewhat strongly, I feel very deeply.

There are two things which always test a man—a crucial test of his nature—power on the one hand, dependence on the other, how he employs the one, how he uses the other. But to this test, the gentleman who is the subject of these few lines will be found sadly wanting, for he gets on well neither with his superiors nor with his subordinates whose lives he has managed to render not worth a day's purchase. Civil Service like charity covers a multitude of sins, still he has, if I mistake not, more than once been snubbed, nay, made to eat the humble pie by his superiors for his cantankerousness and self-sufficiency. But what is bred in the bone will stick to the flesh. After all this who will have the hardihood to deny that Local Self-Government, which has consigned us to the tender mercies of meddling Magistrates and made it possible for them to abuse our good men and true like pick pockets, is the veritable dead sea apple which is ashes to the taste. After the memorable Bankipore speech of that staunch friend of Local Self-Government Sir Stuart Bayley, under whose fostering care we have every reason to hope Municipal Government will thrive, you may have thought that the District Officers will take their cue from their master, but you may as well have expected to gather figs from thistles.

Discases, desperate grown,

By desperate appliance are relieved,

Or not at all.

And unless Sir Stuart Bayley is pleased to make an example of his erratic brothers, it would be hoping against hope to "expect a District Officer to be as proud of the success of his own local bodies as of his own local administration." As for my colleagues who have sense enough to feel insulted, I will say to them,

Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world

Like a Colossus, and we petty men

Walk under his huge legs, and keep about.

Men at some time are masters of their fates,

The fault, dear friends, is not in our stars,

But in ourselves, that we are aldermen.

AN INDIGNANT CORPORATOR.

SIR,—It is high time now that I should put in a good word for poor Mr. Surrender Not, who has become of late—even with a portion of "Young Calcutta," whom you described the other day with a singularly felicitous phrase, the "juvenile mobocracy"—what our Hindu ladies call *chhai faili bhāngā kul*. That Mr. Surrender Not has become the butt of every skilful and unskilful archer's shafts cannot be gainsaid. Surrender Not, indeed, as your correspondent, whom I should like to call Sir Blunt, points out, has

Fallen, fallen, fallen, fallen,

Fallen from his high state.

For he tried to build his edifice of fame upon the driving sand of schoolboys' praise.

Since nobody has stepped in to rescue Surrender Not, we would willingly stretch our helping hand to him. Who would not weep for Surrender Not, brave Surrender Not, Surrender Not who has no peer? For our part we would weep our eyes out, for is not Surrender Not the high-priest of a new political dispensation—and our age is rich in all sorts of dispensation—a political dispensation, which, to the thinking of the majority of "Young Calcutta," has opened boundless hopes to the down-trodden millions of India and which will, they believe, hand his name down to generations yet unborn. Be it so. Who can muster courage to argue the point with omniscient "Young Calcutta?"

Surrender Not—*iam* we are not and cannot be, but we are in full possession of most of the articles of the political faith professed by the Surrender Not—*iam*. Some of these articles of their faith we purpose to lay down for the benefit of our readers. But for a few moments we take leave of Surrender Not and turn our attention to Sir Blunt, a Knight of the Most Exalted Order of the perpetrators of gross sins against Dame Grammar. Sir Blunt, they say, was ushered into the world "with a learned lumber in his

head." Sir Blunt's education commenced under the most auspicious circumstances. He first signalled himself and has been since signalling himself by a total neglect of Dame Grammar. Ah! She dear old maid who in our younger days dandled every one of us, we know not how oft. Sir Blunt had no one to instil into his youthful heart that precept, which is of supreme importance to a child, a precept which every one of us was solemnly taught to treasure up in our memory, namely, that Dame Grammar never did betray the child that loved her.

Wordsworth's famous line, "The child is father of the man" is amply verified in Sir Blunt's case: for he, who was afterwards to be the conqueror of Surrender Not signalled his childhood by being nothing daunted at the frowns of an old maid, Dame Grammar. Thus without having anything to do with Dame Grammar he flew unfledged to Shakespeare.

Would to God Sir Blunt were marriageable or which is synonymous with marketable, for in these days of bridegroom-scarcity in Bengal Sir Blunt backed by his grandiose style would fetch a high price in the hymeneal market. But stop. I am suddenly reminded of the ancient who "danced away" his marriage and my anxiety is lest Sir Blunt should "write away" his. But some might say it were to consider too curiously to consider so. Be that as it may, this much at least is certain that Sir Blunt has, to quote a beautiful expression of Sir W. Scott, fairly written himself out.

The Shakespearian part of Sir Blunt's learning, which he considers his forte is at times seriously at fault. We quote a sentence of Sir Blunt's in which he calls in the aid of the immortal Bard of Avon—be it noted that it is Sir Blunt's way now to "unsphere the soul of Plato" and then to call in "Alliteration's artful aid" to embellish his productions:

"Dressed in little brief authority Surendra Nath would develop a variety of unamiable qualities, play such fantastic tricks before high heaven as make the angels weep—nay, pose as a Caesar till the people were provoked to cry,

Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world, &c.

The italics are our own. We do not clearly see what the latter part of the sentence means. The words "why, man, he doth, &c," if we mistake not, were uttered by Cassius and not by the provoked people as Sir Blunt would have it. "Demagogues are despots in posse," says Sir Blunt, and he points a moral, "add to this, power, you know, pollutes whatever it touches, &c." In spite of the lofty moral it teaches, the above sentence, we are compelled to say, is at best awkwardly constructed. One or two more such instances and—to use Sir Blunt's language—"I am done." Sir Blunt writes: "Unlike merciful Heaven who with his sharpened and sulphurous

bolt splits the *unwedgeable* and gnarled oak rather than the soft myrtle, they would fight shy of the big swells and hurl their bolts on the devoted head of the weak and helpless." Sir Blunt has preached a noble sermon. One might almost say without much apology that the Sermon on the Mount seems improved upon here. I am tempted to exclaim in spite of myself, Thou noble philosopher, who would undertake to gauge thy soul's immensity! At any rate, not I, "for in tasks so bold can little men engage!"

Faith would I soar to elegise Sir Blunt but "Thou sweet poetry thou loveliest maid," between thee and me a whole ocean rolls. And moreover Sir Blunt has little need. Elegise him, we may or may not, Sir B——— is Sir B———"for a' that."

Unwedgeable, by the way, is spelt without an *e*. But a Shakespeare scholar like Sir B——— may with perfect impunity bid defiance to poor orthography.

Cart-loads of obsolete and vulgar words and phrases have been pressed into Sir B's service.

Hearing the above sermon Surrender Not may well say with the poor Negro: "If preachy, preachy; if foggy, foggy: but not preachy and foggy too, Massa."

This much for to-day. We would resume our task hereafter and give in detail the articles of the political faith of the Surrender-Not-ians for which we stand pledged to our readers.

April 20.

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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—smaller than that large province—who are, ironically, otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but greatly aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1888.

No. 324

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THE LATE MATTHEW ARNOLD.

BORN DECEMBER 24, 1822. DIED APRIL 15, 1888.

Past in a moment ; passed away,
The finest spirit of the day,
Past in the full meridian sense
Of masterful intelligence :
The thought that struck—the wit that played
With measured aim—with tempered blade—
The hand that with new laurels hung
The temple of the Mother-Tongue,
The soul that nursed the inner fire
Which radiates from Apollo's lyre,
And crowns his favourites, now as then,
Among the foremost sons of men ;
And through, above, and o'er them all
The heart that only friends recall,
Though his the memory that lends
To all who knew him, touch of friend's !
Of open brow and cheery mien,
Earnest and playful and serene,
Brightest—where duller man may roam—
In the divine repose of Home,
Even as he lived, he passed from sight,
In all the fullness of the light ;
And, never crossed by twilight ray,
The radiant spirit flashed away.

“ Call no man happy till he die ! ”
Thrice happy he, then, we reply :
Even here on earth this mortal gone
His immortality puts on ;
For far beyond, and far behind,
Shall live his legacy of Mind,
A throbbing pulse of English thought,
Quick with the lessons that he taught.
Thrice happy he, whose buoyant youth
In light of Beauty sought for Truth,
Showed stars that guide to eyes that shine,
High-priest of Beauty's inmost shrine,
And—wheresoe'er new worships tend—
Ensued his goddess to the end !
Hard pleaded he for those hard bound
In Life's dull places' dearest round,
And to the longing listener showed
How Beauty decks the ugliest road ;
For ever, in the rushing race,
He claimed for her, her quiet place,
Bade Science, on her march of pride,
Yet list the scholar at her side,
And grasping all, her world to be,
Pause at the fount of Castaly.

His was the gift, nor sting nor smart
To lend to Raillery's keenest dart ;
Since on his cradle Humour smiled,
He played with Humour like a child,
Yet, to a great soul's instinct true,
Taught greater lessons than he knew.
How were his high imaginings
Impatient of all meaner things,
Petty words and petty deeds,
And petty of kindred creeds,
Rich, of counsel for a name,
All unalike the same,—
Jars a
stirred the clear : no scorn,
To seek beyond some worldless sun
The One in All—the All in One !
Was this unfaith ? Not he who erst
His walk with God on Rydal nursed,
And votary-wise young Arnold won,
Would for such doubt disclaim his son.
High quest can ask no nobler lot ;
What ardent nature questions not ?

So, softly on the closing time
Scarce died away : Sunday chime,
And on the brave overpast
The quiet church-door closed the last !
Truth's good and faithful servant, thou,
And Love thine on mystery now.

HERMAN MERIVALE.

Wimbledon, April, 1888.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

LORD DUFFERIN is anxious to deal personally with the question of the poverty of its masses before he leaves India, and a circular has been issued calling on the local administrators to submit their reports punctually by the first of June.

THE Lucknow *Advocate* complains of the partizanship of the *Allyghur Institute Gazette*, and calls upon the Director of Public Instruction to stop the scandal. Yes, the old Syud, the schoolmaster, who at his beck spins out his yarn by the yard, should confine themselves to the congenial columns of the *Pioneer*.

WE see that the new Sind paper with the queer name of “Everybody's Paper,” which we criticised sometime back, has found it expedient to abandon its designation. It has been rechristened the *Karachi Chronicle*. It is much more than a mere advertiser. In fact, it is daily looking up.

SOME magistrates—occasionally respectable ones too—are reproached with making a bear-garden of their courts. Here is a court converted into a fighting ring ! The other day, at Mirzapore, in the court of the Deputy Collector Pandit Madho Pandit, while the presiding officer was

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

going on with the case of some of the prisoners in the dock fell upon one another and were mutual fisticuffing, leaving three men *hors de combat*.

WE are glad enough to learn that the Salem municipality have elected to the chair a Mahomedan Commissioner. But we confess the following argument is beyond us:—

"That the Hindu Municipal Commissioners of the town of Salem, which only a few years ago was a scene of a great religious squabble between Hindus and Mohmmadans, have elected a Mohmmadan as their Chairman conclusively proves that the whole cry against the representative government is based on sentimental rather than on real grounds."

PANDIT Shyamji Krishna Varma, Dewan Bahadoor, who was reported to have left Rutlan bag and baggage, and was next reported to be staying and to mean to stay, has, after all, gone on two months' leave, preparatory to his retirement. In the meantime, the Nab Dewan Baboo N. C. Rajwats as Dewan.

RAJA RAMESHWARA SINGH Bahadoor, brother of the Maharaja of Durbhanga, has been exempted from personal attendance in Civil Courts.

It appears that the Chota Maharani of Bulrampore (Jaipal Koer) sent her Indian counsel, Mr. F. T. Forbes, a Lucknow barrister, to England to represent her in the Privy Council. The judgment of the Judicial Committee in the great Bulrampore Appeal having been published, Mr. Forbes, who went home last August, has returned to India.

THE widow of Maharaja made peace with all things even to the law and religion. The burden of her new position as the royal mother preyed for her, and she succumbed to the malady that had been preying upon her for some time.

THE American *savant*, Professor Hugo Blanck, has come to the conclusion that an electric current through water purifies it, by killing, of all the germs of disease therein. Here is a hint to our Health Officer. Can not the Calcutta ponds be improved this way instead of being filled up?

A BRUTAL murder of love is reported:—
"One of the most brutal murders committed last week in Venice, a city singularly revolting kind. Giovanni seems, fallen desperately in love with Giustina. As the girl steadily repels his absorbing passion, he left Venice to find work there. In this apparer turned to Venice, sending his wife to that occupied by her sister Anna. He crept up and found her on the floor. He had gone to upon her head, and a revolver it. Then, he flung her clear over the balcony on to the stones, he fired to. Threw on to her body, which his mad, out his brains with the cut open the veins of blood streamed from the *sangue mio!* Before the police could arrive he was a cold-blooded one, due to dishonourable passion for his beautiful sister-in-law, who had invariably treated him with coldness and disdain."

WE read in the Lucknow *Advocate*:—

"We are glad to hear that the Edinburgh University has conferred the title of D. D. on Mr. Mortimer Sloper Howell, Judge of Aligarh and the author of an excellent Arabic grammar."

We are unable to sympathise with the writer—we are not sure we quite understand him. What is there for gratulation in this high nonsense? What do the dons of Edinburgh care about Oriental literature, and why should they single out for honour an Indian District Judge whose only contribution to learning is a grammar of an Eastern tongue? Above all, the idea of the Edinburgh University making an Indian Civil Servant a Doctor of Divinity in reward for an Arabic grammar, is rich!

Of course, we can believe that Mr. Howell has got some other title from the University, at the instance of Principal Muir, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces of Bengal, himself a ripe Arabic scholar.

BISMARCK'S crusade against the spirit of anarchy and social revolution is proceeding vigorously. The powers he has obtained from the legislature, are not by any means left unused. Bismarck's laws are things indeed.

"Since the proclamation in Germany of the law against the Socialists, 3,948 papers and documents have been prohibited, 383 newspapers appearing in that country has been attempted, and 141 foreign newspapers have been suppressed, 296 newspapers have been suppressed, inland as well as abroad."

After that, the relentless barbarity with which the Government is enforcing the Crimes Act in Ireland, is a positive weakness!

Would that those of our countrymen who abuse the boon of freedom conferred on us by Britain, might learn from the above quotation!

WE read:—

"The imports of paper, pasteboard, books, and engravings into France during 1886 amounted to 31,000,000fr., against 31¼ millions in 1885. The exports from that country of paper, &c., reached 45 millions, against 44½ millions of francs in 1885. Germany alone supplied some 2,490 tons of paper, pasteboards, books, and engravings, valued at 13,375,007fr., whereas France exported to Germany only some 590 tons of the value of 4,308,904fr."

THE minor son and nephew of a dismissed Deputy Magistrate were observable at the Government Parties of the last season, both at Government House and at Belvedere. We are not aware of their having been presented at the Levee, the son being still a schoolboy. The ex-Deputy was discreet enough not to shew himself.

TELEGRAMS about Emperor Frederick's health this week are satisfactory. His Imperial Majesty is much better. On the 16th inst. he was able to take an hour's drive in the Park. The tracheal discharge, moreover, is free from any cancerous matter.

THE Government of India has not received intelligence from Herat confirming what has been telegraphed to India of the Jamshedis declaring for Russia. But news was lately received of movements of Sariks on the boundary requiring the presence of Alikhanoff. It is probable that his departure from Panjdeh in connection with the Sariks has given rise to the report about the Jamshedis.

KURRACHEE 11th. The ladies, families and remaining followers of Ayub's party numbering 454 persons left for Rawalpindi by special train this morning.

SRINAGAR 11th. Cholera slightly less. 127 new cases and 63 deaths in Srinagar during the last 23 hours.

THE *Calcutta Gazette* of the 16th May publishes the rules relating to money-orders other than revenue money-orders in favor of the Magistrate, Collector, (or Deputy Commissioner), Chairman of the District Board, and officers in charge of departments under the Magistrate or Collector, as also the Revised Rules for the grant of tea and arable Leases.

THE Lieutenant-Governor left Calcutta for Darjeeling yesterday.

THE Home Remittances last week amounted to £308,100.

THERE is no love lost between the *Bombay Gazette* and the *Advocate of India*. The former was wont to despise the latter as an "obscure journal," not worth the notice of people with a "reputation to lose." The most unkindest cut of all at last came with the *Gazette* announcing with a chuckle that the *Advocate* "was in the market." It was true—the *Advocate* advertising itself as for sale—but so much the worse for it! No wonder that the *Advocate* wallah returned the compliment as soon as it could informing the world that, like most unmarried ladies, the *Gazette* too was open to an offer. This was afterwards followed up with the positive assertion that Abdul Huq of Hyderabad had purchased the *Gazette*. And the attitude of the paper on the

Hyderabad scandal seemed to favor the notice. These statements have, however, been contradicted, and the *Gazette* by its conduct is further clinching the contradiction. The *Advocate* is far too respectable not to bow to correction, but it maintains its undying spirit of *snobness* towards the other print, and manages to convert its misfortune into a triumph almost. Says our contemporary :—

"We unhesitatingly accept the telegraphic contradiction of which we have been advised, at least as far as concerns the ownership of the paper, but we cannot refrain from expressing disappointment that the paper has not actually changed hands. There is now no hope of any improvement in its tone or appearance."

generalship that, inflicting in the very act of retiring from an honorable position a deadly blow on the enemy. Certainly, a nearer approach to the disagreeable obligation—clearly incurred—of tendering an apology is not known for many a day.

Commissioners in the Larpent Enquiry in connection with the Punjab University, have submitted a long report. It has not yet been made public.

THE latest report dated the 14th from Srinagar is that Cholera has slightly increased again during the last two days. The number of new cases in Srinagar in the last 54 hours is 105 and total deaths 55, compared with 88 cases and 45 deaths on the 12th May.

IN aid of its Funds, there will be a series of entertainments at the Calcutta Free School, on Monday, the 4th June. The admission will be by tickets priced at only Re. 1. The programme ought to draw. It consists of Jarley's Wax Works, Cinderella (Pantomime), Christy Minstrels by popular amateurs, Popular Ballad Concert, Grand Illuminations and Display of Fireworks. For the series, if well carried out, the price for admission is but a trifle. Besides, the collection will be for a deserving object of charity.

THE Birthday of Her Majesty will be kept in India on Thursday, the 24th May 1888. The Viceroy holds a levee at Simla. The Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation has issued his usual invitation for a Garden Party.—The *Indian Mirror*, as usual, has misapprehended the *Gazette*.

A STANDING Congress Committee has been established for the District of Meerut, consisting of the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number :—

Syed Akbar Ali Shah ; Nawab Ahmed Shah, Reis, Sirdhana ; Lala Kishan Sahai, Rai Bahadur ; Syed Meer Khan, Sirdar Bahadur, Reis, Khanpur ; Mr. Pyare Lal, Barrister-at-law ; Lala Gobind Pershad, Pleader ; Pundit Gobinddat, Secretary, Deonagri Sabha ; Babu Rughbur Saran, Pleader and Reis, Hapur ; Prahlad Singh, Vakil, &c. ; Pandit Ram Pershad, M.A. ; Lala Badri Pershad ; Babu Mallu Mal ; Chowdhri Durga Singh, Zemindar, Asora ; Chowdhri Labu Singh ; Chowdhri Radhe Lal ; Lala Anand Sarup, Reis and Municipal Member ; Lala Diwan Singh, Reis, Sadder Bazar.

THE juvenile mutiny at Madras has ended satisfactorily. The boy who had been prepared for the light—of Christianity—has been sent back to his parents unbaptised. The other students have rejoined, and been accepted in, their respective classes, the ringleaders being punished by fine or rustication.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Economist and calculator, like the woman, will be out. Lord Reay has taken a distinctly *doctrinaire* move. The Mehmabad Municipality in Gujerat has been suspended for a year—for its obstinacy in sticking to octroi as a source of revenue. The Bombay Government had recommended the house tax in preference to the octroi, which, they believed, seriously hampered trade. Are there not two sides to the question? And what of Bombay? The *Statesman* to the rescue!

THE Registrar of the Calcutta University has not been as good as his word. To personal enquiries he gave his friends to understand that the result of the Entrance Examination would be published in the *Gazette* this day. The *Gazette of India* to-day is as innocent as we of the fate of the "innocents."

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL entered in the House of Commons, the following reply from the Under-Secretary, Baron H. de Worms for the Colonies :—

"A great part of the revenue of Mauritius is derived from Customs and licences. The Indians, forming more than two thirds of the population, no doubt contribute largely to the revenue from these sources. At the present time, the elected members and the nominated members, who are not public officers, constitute the majority of the council of government. The Crown is therefore unable to exercise a preponderating influence. At the only election which has yet been held under the new constitution, very few Indians voted. One of the nominated members of the Council is an Indian. The Secretary of State will do all in his power to obtain more adequate provision for the elementary education of the Indians."

The Indians and other Asiatics and Africans in Mauritius are the victims of one of the worst forms of class tyranny in the world. If they now receive any relief, they will owe it to the justice and humanity of Governor Pope Hennessy and the cruel persecution to which he was subjected by the Colonist party in the island headed by the local Civil Service. Our native politicians in India strangely neglect their exiled brethren and their descendants. If any of our Associations or public men or publicists care to inquire into the subject, we can place before them authentic documents which will open their eyes to a revolting system which is a disgrace to the Queen's Government and Christendom.

IN a letter received lately from Jeddah, our Consul at that port gives examples of some of the disagreeable consequences which may ensue upon landing cargo at Turkish custom houses when any errors or omissions exist in the ship's manifest. If anything entered in the manifest is found deficient in the cargo, duty is charged on it just as though it was landed ; and if any goods are found on board which are omitted from the manifest, a double duty is charged on them. A wrong entry at the custom house leads to a demand for customs upon what is entered, though nothing is actually present. Shippers in India must be careful of the accuracy of their manifests of cargo for Turkish ports. The evidence from bills of lading or such documents appears to be accepted in proof of good faith. Of course, so much smuggling is practised even by respectable shippers that fiscal officers have need to be most careful. They should, no doubt, be open to reason, and admit the evidence of their senses. But then it is impossible to make a thorough judicial investigation in every particular.

ABDUL HUQ is master of the following properties in Bombay—

"The Sirdar's first purchase was the Government Central Press, in the heart of the Fort—a building which, as former Government House, and subsequently the Secretariat, possesses much historical interest. By many the sale of this building was regarded as a piece of vandalism ; but what was considered to be most objectionable was the fact that the building, which occupies one of the best sites in the Fort, was sold by private treaty by the Collector. No one knew that the old Secretariat was in the market until the purchase had been made by Abdul Huq. Among some of his other purchases are the Esplanade Hotel and Grant's Buildings, for each of which he is understood to have given more than five lakhs. Then, besides these, there are some other buildings he has been building at the Apollo Bunder, immediately facing the Yacht Club, and covering a large area, which are now approaching completion, and will be fit for occupation before the monsoon begins."

The Hyderabad Government is willing, if it is allowable under the law, to attach these, to recoup itself of the fraudulent loss of money occasioned by Abdul Huq. The Sirdar, however, is willing to refund the money invested in the Deccan mining scheme on behalf of the Hyderabad Durbar, provided he is no more harassed nor the concession cancelled. The Nizam, it is also said, has used the money, for the terms attached.

THE accomplices of Abdul Huq in England have produced a letter to him from Nawab Salar Jung the son purporting to ratify the Huq arrangements, for which the late Minister has made a lame apology. A still more serious attempt has been made to implicate the late Minister's illustrious father. The following letter from the late Salar Jung to Abdul Huq has been produced in London :—

"My dear Syed Abdul Huq,—I have no doubt the Nizam's Government will appreciate at their full value the services you have rendered in originating and maturing the Chanda Railway scheme, if it is carried through. But as the work you are doing is outside your official capacity and your services to the promoters of the scheme will have been just as valuable to the Nizam's Government in case of the scheme being carried through, I write a line to assure you that I shall have no objection to your receiving any remuneration on the railway and mining schemes with which they may reward your services, and that I shall consider whatever you may receive from them as only your own."

The genuineness of the information has been doubted. A strong demand was made for Rizam to England, headed by Mehdi Ali Khan, to examine and assist the Parliamentary Committee generally.

THE Police are still at their old and resting hackney carriages for excess passengers. We have seen the authority of the Police in our issue of the 14th April last. Since then we have not seen any justification attempted anywhere for this troublesome interference, specially annoying when the human freight happens to be *pardanashin*. Only recently, there was an arrest in the presence of the Police Court, and the carriage and fare including zenana ladies, were all taken to the police station. We must do the arresting policeman the justice to say that he tried to secure another carriage specially for the softer species, but the Police have the reputation of not paying for work done, and each cabby that was hailed, drove away. The arresting officer would not be appeased, if the fare were reduced to the licensed number, but driver and all—evidence of breach of law—must be booked at the Thana for the case before the Magistrate next day. We do not know how it ended, or to what further exposure the ladies were subjected. Hackney Carriage law is no part of the Police Act, and the offences or occasions for which arrest or seizure can be made, are specified in the Act itself. Indeed, the Hackney Carriage Act empowers the Magistrate to call upon the owner to produce the driver under a penalty. The working of the Hackney Carriage law is not left to the Police. The function of the Police in connection therewith is limited and detailed in the Act itself.

SIR HENRY HARRISON may well congratulate himself on having carried his drastic measure of municipal reform through, amendments and protests notwithstanding, in and out of the Council, and in the face of the degeneracy of the times and the selfishness of the members themselves. It only remains to be seen whether the organization there has surely been a real and lasting improvement. An earnest and vigorous protest was made by the Council, nor cavalierly dealt with by the Government. Sir Richard Temple forced on his Council the elective principle of the present law, even after the Select Committee had formally reported against it, when the Bill without it was about to pass. We of the Indian League did it all. In the teeth of the entire Council—against the combined opposition of the old Corporation of the Justices of the Peace, the British Indian Association, the Civil Service, the European mercantile community, the *Hindoo Patriot* and the *Indian Mirror*, and, last not least, Sir Stuart Hogg, the head of the Municipal Council and the town Police—the then just started Indian League gave vent to the general dissatisfaction of the unrepresented classes of the population with the existing municipal constitution, headed a demonstration, and, thanks to the much maligned Sir Richard Temple's readiness to listen to popular complaint and extend local government, won the franchise. We wonder our brother of the *Lat Bazar* and Father James of the *Lat Bazar Daily News* do not all to their fellow-citizens a triumph. They had so much to do in such honorable share. How different to the professional orators who headed the recent demonstration, who have spoiled a good cause. With every addition to the municipal corporation, and without sympathizing with the exaggerated alarms of our writers and orators at the extension of the franchise, we think there are one or two serious threats if the municipal government is not brought to have been eliminated. We are afraid Sir Stuart Temple is too far committed to withhold his consent to the

THE world still teems with violence as ever, and cases continually crop up, sometimes obscure, frequently in unexpected quarters. Unfortunately, the violence of life is usually far from pleasant. Even that charming illustration at Tangail of Indian wifely fidelity unto death, under repeated insult and wrong, culminating in murderous violence, reported by us a month ago, is painful to contemplate. We present to the reader a far more harrowing account of a long career of unmerited suffering. Here is as distressing a narrative of wrong as ever book-wright invented, communicated by a Hyderabad Correspondent of the *Jam-i-Jamshed* of Bombay. Charming as was that picture of idyllic faith and tenderness, the following is richer in variety of incident and in dramatic situations.

"Mr. Hormusji Dorabji Bangalee, a coach-builder of this city (Sikandrabad) went a few days ago to pay a visit to a Mussulman gentle-

man of the same place. To his astonishment he found the groom of this Mussulman to be a Parsee. On enquiry he was informed that the name of this stable boy was Pestonji Burjorji Sukhadwalla. It was the misery of his condition that he had to jump at once to a groom. Mr. Bangalee took pity on his caste-brother and took him to his place, where the miserable man told his tale. According to statement, about 34 years ago he was an inhabitant of Bourbon, where he followed the profession of a buggy-driver. Once a Frenchman hired his buggy and engaged his vehicle for a month. A friendship grew up between them an intimacy which cost the poor fellow the thing that is dearest to a mortal in this world namely his freedom. One occasion the French Captain offered him the post of driver if he went with him to Mauritius. The offer was too good to refuse. The man succumbed to the trap that was laid for him. He tried hard to dissuade him from the step, but to no avail. He was accompanying the Captain to his ship the *Patrice*. He was not the only man whose services had been engaged. There were about sixty men—some Hindoos and some Parsees. Among these men he had some cargo and some horses. The ship arrived at Mauritius and anchored in the harbour, some boats approached it, and some of the men, some horses and a part of the cargo. Imagine the scene. The less men, when the ship again put to sea, the more they were. The ship again anchored at a port. The men arrived and after examining them, gave each a certificate. The sailors now threw round the neck of each a ring of iron and bid them be prepared for their sale. At this they began to bewail their fate and the ship became a scene of misery and lamentations. It was a French island, known among the French by the name of Bourbon. The unhappy men, none of whom was more than thirty years of age, were brought under the hammer and the subject of our account was knocked down for 100 rupees. Being separated from his country for more than 30 years this Parsee has forgotten his native tongue, while he speaks French and Arabic with fluency. This miserable man when taken away to be a slave, was twenty, and the event occurred 34 years ago. According to his statement, the Island of Bourbon has now come under the British sway, and hence his liberation. This Pestonji is now brought to Bombay. The meeting between this man and his mother who had given her son up and who is at present confined to bed, beggars all description."

We have no reason to suppose that Pestonji speaks false. Whether he went out as a coachman to the Mauritius may be ascertained from his family and friends at Bombay. The rest of his story is *vraisemblant*, till he comes to his release. That is unaccountable. His ignorant notion is that the island of Bourbon passed under the hands of the British who freed all the men detained in captivity. We hope some of our public men in the West will look into the matter.

NAWAB Dilruba Mahal, whom the late king Wajid Ali Shah took to wife while he was heir-apparent to the throne of Oudh, died of cholera, at her residence in Ekbalpore, near Kidderpore, in the morning of Wednesday the 9th instant. She held a *jaghir* near Lucknow.

THE same morning also died, of child-birth, Nazeer Arza Begum, granddaughter of Nawab Ali Nakee Khan, first married to the late Prince Faridoon Kadr and after his death to his brother Mirza Jamjah Ali. The child—male—was born on Sunday, and is well.

CONTINUITY of policy is all very well when there is ethnic homogeneity in the personnel of succession of office. Where there is a break in this, the rule vanishes. A native succeeding a European, may regard it proper to make no violent change in the order he finds in vogue. But a European coming after a native, is not always restrained by similar scruple from disturbing his predecessor's arrangements. The rampant British Huzzoor might even take a positive delight to make a clean sweep of all the landmarks of the dark age. Such a discipline it is now the fortune of a neighbouring District to experience. The prefecture has changed hands, the Baboo who was in charge having gone home to marry his children, a European has come in. He is represented to be afflicted with a violent antipathy towards all natives, specially of the true genus "Baboo." Such a man would be naturally disposed to regard Baboo Mohendro as the embodiment of the Baboo nuisance. He would see the Arch Baboo's arrangements as well as countrymen sent to a yet hotter place than Bengal. He is a hero, our prefect, of the type of Mr. Cook of the Financial Department, and he inaugurated his entrance into the present office by a raid on the hubbly hubbles—as formidable a foe to British prestige and imports from the Philippines and the West Indies as the historical "ferocious doolies." He left twenty of them *hors de combat* and routed many more. He is said to have already become the terror of the poor natives of the Baboo class. We wonder whether our prefect has a personal grudge against the class. Had he been actually licked, or only figuratively kicked? Had any audacious Baboo demanded repayment of a loan, or refused him the pleasure to disable his favorite elephant?

After an encounter with a Classical Baboo, in which he came off second best, a well-known Magistrate of Allahabad, since retired, went next morning to a Police station where he complained of the inefficiency of the constabulary and the officers, seeing that no Baboos were ever sent up. The Inspector with joined palms represented to his Magisterial Majesty that the Bengalis in the Upper Provinces were a picked class—Baboos in fact, that is, gentlemen by birth or position, who could scarcely be expected to furnish work for Police or any other purpose. He was rebuked for his stupidity. He was reminded that he must furnish cases of drunkenness and disturbance and disorder. He ventured to submit that the Baboos were wellknown for their love of peace. But the Saheb will none of it. *Chorā nā sone bhānī*. He alternately stormed and argued and bullied, and at last, after a very evening the Police took counsel and decided to lie in wait for unwary Baboos, for the purpose of dragging them before the magistrate. But, luckily for them and their meditated victims alike, the next day the magistrate himself was promoted to a judgeship in another district. He declined the promotion, but in a few days he was compelled to join his new office.

Cannot the new broom of a prefect be promoted to the Andamans—we mean as Superintendent of the interesting islanders?

ANOTHER batch of Honorary Magistrates for Calcutta has been added to the list. They are—Rai Ramshunker Sen Bahadoor, Baboo Obhoy Chunder Dass, Mr. A. D'B. Gomess, Mr. R. D. Mehta, Kumar Kristo Dass Law, Kumar Reshee Case Law, Baboo Sita Nath Roy, Syud Tujummool Hossein, Baboo Sreenath Chunder, Baboo Opendronath Mitra, Baboo Opoorbo Coomar Gangooly, and Baboo Bihari Lal Pal. A strong batch. The first three are retired Deputies, the first two well-known for ability and wide experience in the Service. Mr. Mehta is the Parsee mercantile man, whose public activity is well-known. He has lately been appointed on the Port Commission. His worth may also be presumed from the persistent detraction of the *Indian Mirror* and its myrmidon of a Parsee badmash, whom he had had the rashness to befriend. The Lawlings are, of course, a compliment to our worthy townsman Raja Doorga Charan, and will doubtless prove chips of the old block. The next name is that of the Secretary to the Native Chamber of Commerce, and is a compliment to Hatkhola. The appointment unfortunately will recall the disgrace of his better-known and more energetic brother, who would else have himself got it long since. The next is a political appointment, but surely there are more respectable men in the Mahomedan community than the Ahmeds and such like whom Government delights to honor. The remaining gentlemen are all respectable men and lawyers experienced in courts.

THE dogs of war are no mere figure of speech, thanks to the combativeness of Christendom and the development, in these times of progress, of the bump of destructiveness of the Western nations! In France, at any rate, war hounds form a recognised institution in the army. As yet, they are not used to any bloody purpose. But we all know the part played by blood-hounds in pursuit of fugitive slaves in the American swamps, and, as rival nations stick at nothing in prosecution of their international enmities, we may well be prepared for a canine departure of Christian warfare. Specially is this to be feared against the despised Heathen. But enough for the day is the evil thereof. It is a relief to know that just now our noble fellow-creature, the dog, is put to no base use. An establishment of dogs is maintained for the peaceful employment of messengers in war. The animals are trained to carry despatches with celerity. Horsemen also and bicyclists, are employed for the same purpose. The other day, the Minister of War held under his eye a trial at Tours of the relative efficiency and speed of these several kinds of couriers. All three sets were ridden four miles (6 kilometres) with a despatch. From the first, the dogs left the others behind, but they proved themselves only dogs in the end, notwithstanding. For, in the course of the race, one of them, seeing a piece of water, stopped for a drink and his fellow canines seeing it stopped likewise and did the same, causing 30 seconds' delay which enabled the bicyclist to come up and be the first to arrive at destination. The result of several trials, however, showed the superiority of the dogs, whose average time in reaching the goal was 14 minutes less 5 seconds, while the bicyclists made it at an average of a full quarter of an hour. The

lumbering horse was nowhere, taking 24 minutes to do the distance. A four mile heat is an awful strain for man and beast, however. A 2 mile race was held with the same general competitive result, the dog still asserting his superiority, to the heavier discomfiture of Centaur. The dogs ran the ground in 7 minutes, the bicyclists in 9, and the horsemen in 15.

EARLY in the year 1887 Munshi Newal Kishore of Lucknow offered a prize for the best essay on the National Association for Supplying Female Medical aid to the women of India, comprising its aims and a resumé of the work done by the Central Committee, and those of the various branches. The essay was open to female competition, either European or Native, and the one written by Mrs. Knox won the prize. In a little brochure of 57 pages, Mrs. Knox gives a concise but comprehensive account of the institution—its origin, aims, the work done and its needs. The objects which the association has been formed to promote are, as is wellknown, to teach and train in India women as doctors, hospital assistants, nurses and midwives, to establish under female superintendence dispensaries and college hospitals for the treatment of women, and to supply trained female nurses and midwives for women and children in hospitals and private houses. It is written, whatsoever the hand findeth to do, do with thy whole might, and the philanthropic President Founder has been heart and soul in the truly large undertaking which will constitute an imperishable monument of her name and fame. It goes without saying that her benevolent and unwearied exertions to alleviate the sufferings of Indian women have been attended with success beyond the most sanguine expectations. The grain of mustard cast into a congenial soil has already grown into a mighty tree! Branch associations and hospitals and dispensaries and training institutions—for nurses and midwives—have sprung up in Bengal, Behar, Burma, Bombay, Berar, N. W. Provinces, Madras, Mysore, Central Provinces and Rajputana. The prophet's gourd. The association has for its object, to bring medical relief and medical knowledge to the women of India, and as such a simple comprehensive account of it, written for women, was a want which has been partly removed by the pamphlet under notice. Public opinion in India is as yet but public ignorance, and it ought to be, as far as possible, instructed. We would recommend the Central Committee to have the essay translated into the different Indian vernaculars and distribute it as copiously and extensively as possible.

THERE are Huqs in British India as in Native Deccan. A few years back, an Assistant Secretary and a Registrar in the Foreign Department attracted notice by the uncountable possession of property far in excess of their known means. On inquiry they were turned out. One of them who was on leave was discovered lurking in Bhopal, intriguing with the Begum's husband, ex-Nawab Siddiq Hasan, and selling him secret documents. A low European who got into a considerable office in Calcutta, simply lending himself to the vice of high officials, has drawn on him an unpleasant scrutiny. He has within his own jurisdiction become the owner of valuable houses. He has been levying black mail of 80,000 a year on a single ward. He will go, of course, the matter is too dirty and glaring. But we demand a public inquiry.

WE have received the following letter from Dacca:

"Within the last week one Kamini Kumari brought a charge of theft of a document against Baboos Rajan Choudhry and Sarat Chandra Bosu, vakeels, practising in the District Court of Dacca. The witnesses named are Babu Purna Chandra, District Sub-Judge, Babu Trailokya Natha Bose, M. A., B. L., Vakeel, B. Mahendra Kumar Ghose, M. A., B. L., and other very respectable persons. The Magistrate transferred the case to the file of Babu Chandra Kumar Datta, Deputy Magistrate, who sat this day (13th) at the residence of Babu Purna Chandra Shom, District Sub-Judge, and called the accused and some witnesses and Babu Pratap Chandra Dass. There, instead of holding any enquiry as we were given to understand, to our surprise the case is said to have been compounded."

It is stated, on the authority of a telegram from Cashmere, that the Maharaja of Cashmere has submitted to the Resident two names—Surajbal and Nilambar Mookerjee—as those of suitable men for the office of Minister, but Mr. Plowden will have neither. It is a pity that our native sovereigns do not appoint their own men without reference to the Residency, but if they do pay the representative of our Government the compliment to take him into their confidence, it is a sorry return from him to thwart them in their dearest wishes and objects. It is no business of Mr. Plowden's whom the Maharaja

It is nothing short of a calamity to the country that it is no longer reserved to us even to regard the question of a simultaneous Civil Service competition in India as an open one. But here summarily is this question of questions disposed of in the Commission's report! There is not even an allusion in it to the nation's demand for an Indian competition, made as a matter of right and recommended by every consideration of political expediency as well as social justice. This demand has been repeated times without number ever since the Home Government, in deference to the English public, threw open the competition in 1853 to natural-born subjects of Her Majesty. In deference to the English public, we say, because the benefits of open competition could not in the then stage of Indian education be imagined as likely to fall within the grasp of Her Majesty's Indian subjects. The injustice of the principle, however, of confining the examination in England, did not fail to attract attention even then, and Indian politicians were not slow to claim that it should be removed by providing another examination in this country.

Indeed, the history of this controversy is one which reflects great discredit on the English Government. The demand for a fair competition in India is as natural as it is just. The compulsory denationalization of Indians which has been the consequence of the present state of the law has been a source of infinite evil. If on their return, they were received into their former society, as they might if on their own part they showed a cordial desire of being so received, the thing would have been different by this time. As it is, there is no understanding between the two classes, and the influence exercised by Indian officers thus formed into a distinct and despised community by themselves, can be the good of the country. The experience of the existing system should by this have suggested its abandonment. But that is not to be. Not only was the old demand for an examination in India left unheeded, but since the advance of English education in India led a few enterprising Indian students to compete on equal terms with their English fellow-subjects, the administrations at Home set about how they might frustrate the ambition of these Eastern interlopers, without disturbing the Statute of 1853. They hit upon the device of lowering the age of candidates, which accordingly was reduced successively from 23 to 22, from 22 to 21, and from 21 to 19, as well as reducing the marks assigned to Oriental classics. Such are some of the incidents of the Civil Service question, at any rate as viewed by men in this country, whom they have injuriously affected. What might be the political objects of the English Government in so jealously excluding the Indian people from a fair and unrestricted participation in the Civil Service of their own country, must be best known to itself. It is a record of national selfishness over which one would rather like to draw a veil. Viewed in the light of this record, the refusal of the present Commission even so much as to fairly argue the question of another examination being provided for in India, cannot but look suspicious. This question is scarcely touched in the following passage in the Report which simply expresses the determination of the Commission that the competition shall continue as hitherto in England only.

"On a review of all the evidence before it, the Commission has come to the conclusion that, in the present circumstances of the country, the claims of Natives of India to higher and more extensive employment in the public service and the admission of competent Natives of each Province of India to a due proportion of the posts heretofore reserved for the Covenanted Civil Service, can be best provided for by reducing the strength of the Covenanted Civil Service and transferring a corresponding number of appointments to a local service to be separately recruited in each Province of India. Under this arrangement the Covenanted Civil Service, reduced to a *"corps d'élite,"* and its numbers limited to what is necessary to fill the chief administrative appointments of the Government and such a number of the smaller appointments as will ensure a complete course of training for junior Civilians, *"will continue, as hitherto, to be recruited by open competition in England only,"* under similar standards and conditions of its own, while the Provincial Service, recruited under different methods adapted to local circumstances, will secure a fair representation of the various races of India in the administration of the country. It is an essential feature of this scheme that the competition in England be open unreservedly to Natives as well as to Europeans, that Europeans resident in India who satisfy the prescribed preliminary conditions be eligible equally with Natives for the Provincial Service, and that the conditions of each service respectively be the same for all who enter it to whatever nationality they may belong."

The italics are ours. Scant regard has thus been shown to true native feeling on the subject. Whatever may be the strength of the agitation which has been got up in this country on the subject of age limitations, it probably originated at the bidding of people who were training youth for the examination, and afterwards spread to the more educated classes. To these, however, it was strictly confined, the people of the country at large feeling little or no interest in it. The feeling of the people

on the subject of a forced sale to a foreign land, for the purposes of this competition, was strong as it was all but universal. A few Indians returned from England, it is true, have been spreading a contrary feeling, but it is still confined to a small section only. The genuine Indian sentiment is what we have shown it to be. But it has been disregarded.

It is no wonder, however, that the Report before us shows no gleam of a bold statesmanship—such statesmanship, for instance, as was displayed by a much abused former Viceroy who instituted the Statutory Civil Service. That was a bold great measure, conceived in a spirit of broad sympathy for the claims of classes which have been continually depressed under British rule. The present Commission wants to give the quietus to this bantling of Lord Lytton's brain on the ground that it is condemned by people in general, and that it has failed to realize expectations. That it has enemies among the radical classes, is of a very natural, while as to its failure, that is more the blame of the Governments which went on making nominations from sons and relatives of their aristocratic pets who were bound to fail, than of the Statute.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

VIII.

HUMAYUN.

Humayun was not seated long on the musnud, when his peace was broken by the tumult of war. He proceeded against *Bundelcund*, and laid siege to this place. To accomplish his purpose, he was disturbed by a rebellion in Jounpore, headed by two Atgarian chiefs.

He appeared on the scene, and defeated and dispersed the rebels. But he was immediately called to proceed against the hill fort of Chunar, which had been seized and was then held by his future rival, Shir Khan, who submitted, on condition of returning the fort, and Humayun returned to Agra. This incident was for him the cloud no bigger than a man's hand; soon the sky would be laden with heavy clouds portending a great storm.

Humayun next came into collision with Bahadur Shah, King of Gujerat. A brother-in-law of Humayun's had plotted against his life and Government. On the discovery of his plot, he fled and took refuge with Bahadur Shah, who refused to give him up on Humayun's demand. The Gujerati King, however, took the initiative, though he refrained from open declaring war. He supplied a discontented Mussalm noble, Ala-ud-din, liberally with money, which enabled him in a very short time, to collect a large army, which made Agra its point of attack. This large, hastily collected force was, however, speedily dispersed, and Humayun, burning under the sense of the injury he had received, marched from Agra on Gujerat. He arrived there at a most fortunate time for himself, for he found his enemy at war with the Rana of Meywar, and occupied in besieging Chittoor. He lost this opportunity by permitting himself to be swayed by the remonstrances of the Gujerat King, who protested against the impropriety of attacking a Mussulman prince while engaged in war with the infidels. Some say, that he was influenced by his own idleness and profligate habits, which retarded his march until the place was too strong for him, and Bahadur Shah had time to be prepared to meet him in an entrenched camp. Humayun environed his camp and cut off supplies. Bahadur seeing he would be forced by famine to surrender, fled at night, almost alone, leaving his army to its fate. The army quickly dispersed. Much valuable time was lost in these undertakings. Humayun, to retrieve therefore in some measure his error, led the pursuit in person with a light detachment, until Bahadur Shah finally took refuge in Diu—the most remote part of the peninsula of Gujerat. Having failed in his object, Humayun proceeded to occupy the settled parts of Gujerat, and the open country soon submitted. Next the hill-fort of Champanir was stormed, and Humayun displayed singular courage on this occasion. The army was directed to make an attack on one of the gates of the fort, to draw off the attention of the defenders, while a select band of 300 volunteers escalated the

almost perpendicular escalade was accomplished successfully, with spikes fixed into the rock. Humayun was among the hundred.

At this period, Shir Khan appeared in the field with a chosen body of troops, and the intelligence of his revolt compelled Humayun to leave Gujerat and set off for Agra. He left Mirza Askari, his brother, in charge of his new conquest. Scarcely had Humayun left, when intrigues ensued, with the avowed object of raising Mirza Askari to the throne. These intrigues produced dissensions among the officers and men, resulting in general disorder. Bahadur Shah having information of the state of affairs was soon actively hostile; and the invaders gave up Gujerat almost without a struggle, and also withdrew from Malwa which was not even threatened.

Humayun did not remain long in his capital before he set out against Shir Khan. This remarkable man was the son of a jagirdar of Sasaram in Behar, and had risen by his own ability, from the position of a private soldier in the employ of the Governor of Jounpore, to be master of Behar; he also held possession of the fort of Chunar, and the still more important fortress of Rohtas. Shir Khan, however, did not rest content with so great a change in his fortunes, but was impelled by his restless ambition to invade Bengal; and he had laid siege to Gour, the Capital of the King of Bengal, when Humayun marched from Agra against him, fully recognising the advantage of attacking him while thus embarrassed, and had reached Chunar at the head of a powerful army, without meeting with the slightest opposition. Shir Khan was not ignorant of the danger of his position, but he was equal to the emergency, and laid his plans with much foresight. He threw a strong garrison into Chunar, with instructions to make an obstinate defence and retard the advance of Humayun. He also took possession of the defile of Sickragalli, where he placed a strong force under command of his son. Humayun, however, anticipated his plan to cope at this place with the superior force of Humayun, and he sent a detachment to the hilly tract to the south of Chunar, to Rohtas his family and all his treasure. The check which Humayun received before Chunar gave him time to reduce Gour, and also to obtain a decisive victory in battle. The occupation of the defile of Sickragalli as a second obstruction to the march of Humayun, was decided on, because he yet wanted time to remove to Rohtas the treasures and stores captured at Gour, and to dispose suitably of the open country.

Humayun immediately invested Chunar, and tried every possible means to reduce it, but his efforts failed, and several months were spent in the siege, before the garrison surrendered. On becoming master of the fort, he issued a horribly cruel order. He decreed that the right hands of the gunners, soldiers, and men, should be cut off, in revenge for the loss of his right hand inflicted on him. After the capture of Chunar, Humayun pushed his march along the banks of the Ganges, till he approached the defile of Sickragalli. He sent on an advance guard to occupy the defile, which he found it already occupied by Shir Khan's son. He attacked and repulsed them with considerable loss. He then hastened on with the main body, and was surprised to find the defile open, and the road open to the Capital of Bengal, and the possession of Gour without any opposition. But the rain, which by this time attained their height: the Delta of the Ganges was one vast sheet of water, and in the country the reach of inundation every brook and channel swollen into an impassable flood. It was impossible to carry on military operations in Bengal, and scarcely possible to keep up a communication with Upper India. The army lay in forced inactivity for several months, during which time the soldiers became demoralized through depression, in consequence of the moist and sultry climate, and their numbers were thinned by the sickly season that follows the rains. No sooner were the roads open, than they began to desert in large numbers; and Prince Hindal, who had been stationed in North Behar, marched off with his men, even before the rains had ceased.

IX.

This was just the opportunity Shir Khan had looked forward to. He now issued quickly from his retreat, took pos-

session of Behar and Benares, recovered Chunar, laid siege to Jounpore, and pushed his detachment up the Ganges as far as Canouj. Thus, when the season for military operations commenced, Humayun found his communications with his capital intercepted, and the only alternative left was to trust his new conquest to the charge of a weak garrison, and endeavour to force his way to Agra with the rest of his reduced army. Unfortunately, he hesitated for a long time before he adopted this decided measure, and the dry season was half over before he began his retreat. He sent an advance guard, under the command of Khani Khanam, one of Baber's principal generals, and himself followed the remainder of the troops. His advance guard had reached Monghyr, when it was surprised and defeated by a detachment sent out by Shir Khan, who was now as surprising as he had before been cautious.

If Humayun had not before had sufficient time for extricating himself from his present position, which was daily becoming more perilous, the intelligence he received from Agra must have acted as a spur. His brother Hindal had, after deserting his post at Behar, reached Agra only to begin collecting adherents, and, being afterwards joined by the numerous fugitives from Bengal, he went into open rebellion. Humayun's ministers at this juncture applied on behalf of their master to Prince Camran, who immediately set out from Cabul, with the professed intention of supporting Humayun's interests, but in reality to be at hand to profit by any advantageous opportunity. Humayun therefore pushed on with his weakened force, and had passed Buxar, when he found that Shir Shah was intercepting his retreat. This able chief had raised the siege of Jounpore and had marched thirty-five miles on that day to accomplish his purpose. After such a march, Shir's troops could not have withstood a vigorous assault, and Humayun was strongly urged to attack him at once, before his troops had time to refresh themselves. Here the weakness of his disposition again became apparent, he hesitated, and deemed the course too hazardous to be adopted at once. The next day, Shir Shah was found to have intrenched himself in such a manner that he could not be passed nor attacked with any prospect of success. Humayun therefore could do nothing else than intrench in his turn. He soon began to collect boats and form a bridge across the Ganges, so as to pursue his retreat along the opposite bank. Nearly two months were spent on this work, and yet Shir Khan made no sign of opposition. The bridge was nearly complete, and Humayun was complacently looking forward to a speedy extrication from his difficult position, when Shir Shah showed his hand. For this astute leader every day's delay was an advantage, he therefore placidly witnessed his adversary's endeavours to escape, but when he saw the bridge of boats nearly finished, he suddenly left his camp one day, leaving it, however, occupied by a sufficient force to conceal his movements, made a hasty and secret march at the head of his best troops, and at night found himself behind Humayun's camp. He divided his men into three columns, and at dawn completely surprised the camp of his foe. Humayun had just time to leap on horseback, and then he desired to make an effort against the enemy, when one of his principal officers seized his reins, and compelled him to make his way to the river-side. The bridge was not ready, and as Humayun had not a moment for deliberation, he plunged into the Ganges. His horse became exhausted and sank in the stream before he reached the opposite bank, and he must have been drowned, but at this critical moment he was rescued by a water-carrier who happened to be crossing the river on an inflated *mussuk*, and on which he was able to support the king's weight as well as his own. Thus rescued, Humayun pursued his flight with a very small retinue, to Calpi, and thence proceeded to Agra. Almost the whole of his army had been cut off by the enemy or drowned in the river. Humayun's queen, despite his officers' efforts to save her, was surrounded, and fell into the hands of the enemy. Shir Shah, with becoming magnanimity, treated her with scrupulous delicacy and attention, and restored her to her husband on the first opportunity. Humayun's presence, discomfited as he was, was of essential importance at Agra. His arrival put a stop to the plans of Hindal and Camran. He pardoned Hindal at the intercession of Camran; and the three brothers united their exertions to arrest the progress of the common enemy.

JAMES H. LINTON.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

A VINDICATION.

Surely the time is out of joint, when a man, who has attained the three score years and ten of the Psalmist, can so easily be procured to blow up the sins of an unscrupulous autocrat by the bellows of flattery. Man did I say?—God made him and therefore let him pass for a man. But then he is a fool—an arrant fool, with brass enough in his head to make a tea-kettle! But fool or no fool, he has the qualifications of a critic enough and to spare!

critics all are ready made.

Take hackney'd jokes from Miller, got by rote,
With just enough of learning to misquote;
A mind well skill'd to find or forge a fault;

Fear not to lie, 'twill seem a sharper hit;
Shrink not from blasphemy, 'twill pass for wit;
Care not for feeling—pass your proper jest,
And stand a critic, hated yet caress'd.

Though his way of life

Is fall'n into the scar, the yellow leaf;
And that which should accompany old age,
As honor, love, obedience, troops of friends,
He must not look to have; but, in their stead,
Curses, not loud, but deep, mouth-honor, breath,

Sir Fool is not altogether friendless, for he alone is friendless who cannot find a friend sincere enough to tell him disagreeable truths.

A drowning man catches at a straw, and it is not strange that Sir Fool should seek to demolish me by charging on me the atrocious crime of being a young man. But he ought to know that beard was never the true standard of brains and that

We live in deeds, not years, in thoughts, not breaths,
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives,
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.

Gray hairs should be respected, to be sure. I for one do not demur to the privilege which age always brings—the privilege of being insolent and supercilious without punishment. But surely the man whose age has only added obstinacy to stupidity does not deserve that his gray hairs should secure him from insult.

All seems infected that th' infected spy,
As all looks yellow to the jaundic'd eye.

What wonder then that Sir Fool should light upon as many mistakes in my letter as there are words in it, nay more! Perhaps he does not mean what he says, or why does he not quote chapter and verse? But Sir Fool is not after all so ill-furnished in the upper story as to make himself the laughing stock of the whole world, if he is not already such, by an attempt at discovering (to use a Bengalicism) an equine egg. But granting for the sake of argument that I have made one or two slips of the pen—and it is not strange seeing that good Homer sometimes nods—what do they signify? Does not Sir Fool know that "the toad, though ugly, wears yet a precious jewel in his head?" I can't for the life of me understand how any grammatical inaccuracy that may have crept in my letter can prove that Surrender Not is not the "author of such a book of follies, that it would need the tears of all the angels to blot the records out."

If possession of little knowledge be a sin—I confess I am sinner enough. I have this consolation, though, that I have sinned in good company. But then I know that I know nothing and consequently little knowledge is no dangerous thing so far as I am concerned, while Sir Fool does not know that he knows nothing.

Holloway's Pills.—Pure Blood.—When the Blood is pure, its circulation calm and equable, and the nerves well strung, we are well. These Pills possess a marvellous power in securing these essentials of health by purifying, regulating, and strengthening the fluids and solids. Holloway's Pills can be confidently recommended to all persons suffering from disordered digestion, or worried by nervous fancies, or neuralgic pains. They correct acidity and heart-burn, dispel sick headache, quicken the action of the liver, and act as alteratives and gentle aperients. The weak and delicate may take them without fear. Holloway's Pills are eminently serviceable to invalids of irritable constitution, as they raise the action of every organ to its natural standard, and universally exercise a calming and sedative influence.

As to the aptness of the quotations from Shakespeare, a "bookful blockhead ignorantly read" can be no better judge thereof than swine of pearls.

The Devil hath power to assume a pleasing shape, nay, he can, if necessary, cite Scripture for his purpose. But however he may disguise himself, he can never conceal his cloven feet. Sir Fool has spared no pains to conceal his identity under the borrowed feathers of Sir W. Scott, Dryden, Burns, Wordsworth, Churchill, Pope, Byron, and Mrs. Beecher Stowe; but there is not, it would seem, much love lost between him and Dame Grammar, his protestation to the contrary notwithstanding, and orthography has betrayed him. After all, it is the gentleman for whom motley's the only wear, and not myself, that has to learn to spell. "Unwedgable" should be spelt as I have spelt it and not as he has done. *Ude Measure for Measure*, Act 2 Sc. 2 and Schmidt's Shakespeare's Lexicon. But why go so far, he may refer to his great grandson, if he is not of course a chip of the old block—and he will tell him:—

Listen, O revered great grandsire! to the law of language. When final *e* is preceded by *g* soft, the *e* is retained before *able* and *ous*, as changeable, damageable, marriageable, unwedgable.

The last, but by no means the least, charge against me is that I have pressed into service "cart-loads" of obsolete and vulgar words and phrases." Sir Fool is a veritable S. D. Circle and as such orthodoxy is his doxy and heterodoxy another man's doxy. Cart-loads indeed! but pray is it a Lilliputian cart, a cart which no mortal can see with the naked eye, no not even with the aid of a microscope! But the readers of *Reis* are too old birds to be caught with chaff. They know the Persian saying:—"Though the bat may refuse to fly in the light, that does not diminish the splendour of the luminary."

Sir Fool is nothing if not logical, and his logic is, you know, irresistible. Surendra Nath is a true man, an excellent man and one whom we ought to wear in our heart's core, ay, in our heart of hearts! and why? Because forsooth, "A blunt man's" English is not Her Majesty's English! But, Sir Fool, if Galileo had said "still it moves," would the earth have moved?

Sir Fool is an anti-Surrender-Not-ian, but one may as well believe a man.

You write a letter extending over two columns in exposing the bad English of one who has the audacity to strike off the false patriot's mask, you would have him hanged, drawn, and quartered, and a Surrender-Not-ian and you are "many miles asunder!" But pray, Sir Fool, why are you ashamed to be known as a Surrender-Not-ian, though Surrender-Not-ian you are to the backbone! Verily, hypocrisy is the homage that vice pays to virtue!

I shall be the last person not to give credit where credit is due. Sir Fool is, I must say, wise in his generation. It is well to be in the good books of Surendra Nath, for who knows that we shall not ere long be blessed with the presence for all the ills that flesh is heir to, in the shape of a Government in the form of Government, and that Surrender Not the Great will be the first President of the Republic of United India. Even if he should fail to be installed in the Presidency, still he ought to leave no means untried to ingratiate himself into the good graces of the Government. And should anybody ask him the why and whereof, he might say, like Falstaff, "Give you a reason on compulsion?—No, reasons were plentiful as blackberries, I should give none on compulsion." Or if he has any regard for truth, he might say, what the old woman in the story, who set one candle before the image of the Devil, and another behind it, (whom the former was trampling under feet) said for paying such honor to Satan, naively said:—"V. Your honor, it is quite uncertain which place I shall go to, but I am sure you will not blame a poor woman for securing her own peace."

A fool's bolt is soon spent, but Sir Fool's resources have not already been exhausted, we shall see at Philipp; but what dire sins have the readers of *Reis* committed that Sir Fool should once more inflict on them his terrible anathema?

A F. R. G. A SPADE A SPADE.

MONGHYR.

Jamat, 19th May, 1888.

The people of Monghyr are now in a pleasurable mood for the *Barwarce Poojab* arrangement which is now in full swing and expected to come off by the latter end of current month. They not only indulge in fun or *tamasha* alone, but are seen to divert their mind and thought to a somewhat nobler cause, which is well worth mentioning. The other day there was a meeting in Monghyr Zillah School convened by the well-to-do public and educated classes, headed by the District Magistrate, for discussing the project of a "National Orphanage" to be established there, and certain resolutions were passed and carried.

The "Bayley Reservoir" close to the Hill here, constructed last year, for which the East Indian Railway Company had to spend a large sum, is gone down very low, the water receding about an inch or two daily. I think a further outlay will have to be made shortly.

The European gentry of the place are contemplating to have a meat Market of their own in the heart of this station after the fashion of Calcutta. The scheme might be feasible to some extent, as regards fresh food and meat &c., but the question is whether the said market will be a paying one or not, and suit one and all simultaneously.

The Service Commission from Government, consisting of Deputy Comptroller, with a requisite staff both European and native are here, over-hauling the Accounts of the Railway Audit Branch offices at this station. It is said they will stop here for sometime and scrutinize the accounts in all other offices of the Railway, such as Locomotive, Traffic, &c. The object of this imperial inspection is not yet given out.

The rate-payers of this place (natives of course,) are on the alert for the intended imposition of enhanced taxes for the clearing of vats or cesspools by the municipality. This subject has been engaging the attention of the general public.

We have been suffering unbearable heat of the weather for the last week and unless we have some rain soon I am afraid the people will be dying like sheep.

There is a general cry for water. Ophthalmia the season's disease, has made its appearance, or 3 cases of insanity amongst Eu-

ropean patients here, have come to my notice. All this is attributable to the extreme heat of the weather, I presume.

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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAR FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, he does not seek for and not find. His use of English language has astonished many an Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and resettles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "flesh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth noting. I can fancy the author laughing at his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and all the better for himself. I shall not say more on one more passage; and I give it, the spirit of the man who dares to write in a newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinner and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice. Whether of the person who possesses it, or of the one with whom he has relations.

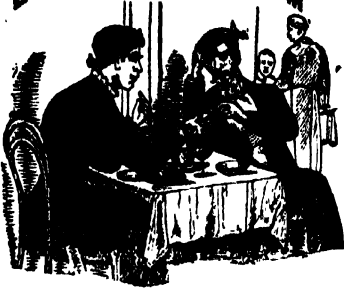
In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, and very vividly can, the author's kindly and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Lal Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are, as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1888.

} No. 325

CONTEMPORARY LYRICS.

DEATH.

BY THE LATE DEAN STANLEY.

I

"Till Death us part."
So speaks the heart,
When each to each repeats the words of doom;
Thro' blessing and thro' curse,
For better and for worse,
We will be one, till that dread hour shall come.

II.

Life, with its myriad grasp,
Our yearning souls shall clasp,
By ceaseless love, and still expectant wonder;
In bonds that shall endure,
Indissolubly sure,
Till God in death shall part our paths asunder.

III.

Till Death us join.
O voice yet more divine!
That to the broken heart breathes hope sublime;
Thro' lonely hours
And shattered powers
We still are one, despite of change and time.

IV.

Death, with his healing hand,
Shall once more knit the band
Which needs but that one link which none may sever;
Till, thro' the Only Good,
Heard, felt, and understood,
Our life in God shall make us one for ever.

RHINE-SIDE.

By queenly Aix to pretty Bonn—
And then athwart the river,
In sheer idlesse we wandered on,
As fain to stray for ever.

With endless shift of Light and Shade
Fair Cloudland decked the scenery;
And, rain-refreshed, brown Autumn made
Herself new Summer-greenery.

Anew leapt out the parch'd rills,
Anew the dry grass sprouted,
A second life was on the hills,
And 'twixt the seasons doubted.

In golden shine the royal Rhine
His dancing wave uplifted;
The rafts by Loreley's mountain-shrine
And reefed reefs were drifted.

Wood and dell,
On ruined shales a mystic
Where the Streghweaver his spell
Of legends weaves.

For still with murmur and with roar
Ran on the storied river,
As if each robber-haunted shore
Should haunted be for ever.

Once more from despairing height
Young Roland on his maiden
Gazed through the dim and mocking night,
Bereft and sorrow-laden,—

While o'er the pale and broken nun,
With love-troth vainly plighted,
The Dragon-Rock frowned sadly down
On heart and passion blighted.

Once more the wild marauding ban
Broke law and fear asunder,
And wrought their death-work on the lands,
For vengeance or for plunder.

And foreign force and foreign
Brought sword and fire to village
The restful homes, the peaceful coasts,
The ingle in the village.

The homes are gone—the hosts have passed
Into the Great Uncertain;
The fateful pall is o'er them cast,
The impenetrable curtain.

The harsh steam-whistle calls and wakes
Their echoes shrill and lonely;
The busy traveller, passing, takes
Note of the moment only.

But, storm or shine, the rushing Rhine
Flows on—the deathless river,
Whose harmonies, by grace divine,
Reverberate for ever.

HERMAN MERIVALE.

Written, September 20th, 1887.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE latest discovery is—a safe is no longer safe, all patents notwithstanding, and though Chubb himself makes it. Experiments with Thomas Fletcher of Warrington's new gas blowpipe have demonstrated that thick iron and steel plates are easily penetrated.

HIS Highness the Maharajah of Jammu and Cashmere has been appointed Honorary Colonel of the 37th Bengal Infantry, and the Raja of Lanbagraon, an officer of the same corps. This is worse than an empty compliment—a foolish business. At any rate, it relieves the good Maharaja of Cooch Behar of the reproach of singularity.

THE Bengali Press is . . . The stigma of cowardice on our people is about to be wiped out . . . aulay, who pointed out that the Bengalis did not furnish a single . . . to the Company, has been practically refused. The hero to offer himself a sacrifice for the credit of his race, has been found. He is a true Bengali and a Baboo in the bargain, being a *Kayastha* or one of the caste of scribes. His name should be preserved—it is Khetter Mohan Palit. He has enlisted in the 7th Bengal Infantry, and is already serving a year, from June 1887. That he is no myth may be ascertained on enquiry at Fort William, where his regiment is now stationed.

Young Bengal remarks :—

"This is not the first time . . . it is the first time that or . . . or six years ago another . . . perhaps of better acquire . . . to be taken in—even as a . . . Our readers shall perhaps . . . ened young Zeminder by . . . months back."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Mirror* is informed that some *poddars*, of Garanhatta, with some *budmashes*, have formed a new order of the knights of industry, with original plan of operations. At nightfall, these latter, armed with . . . hang about the Beadon Gardens, in quest of prey, and, on espy . . . gentleman pass with watch and chain, suddenly pounce down on him and ease him of his gold and silver apparel, the booty being disposed of by the *Poddars*, and the proceeds shared between the two sets. "The Police ought to institute an enquiry into the matter, and ascertain the truth therein," says the *Indian Mirror*. How simple of our contemporary! Why, the Police must . . . another's son of them, as they know the aristocratic B . . . habazar sporting silk coats and real Cashmere shawls, w . . . our watch and chain in the Lieutenant-Governor's cor . . . ne locality—Garanhatta.

Young Ben . . .

"Jealousy . . . lead a man to commit great mistakes and crimes. This . . . case with certain gentlemen connected with several . . . s in Calcutta. The Ripon College scored highest in the . . . ination, the first three places being occupied by its s . . . too much for several gentlemen, who go so far as to ins . . . K. M. Chatterjee, being one of the Professors of the C . . . ently with them. Nor is this all; they even dare to say . . . Chatterjee left out Tort because the subject was not taught . . . college. How far this is, we do not know. So far as we know . . . representation was made to Mr. Chatterjee, by the students of the C . . . and the Metropolitan Colleges, which decided Mr. Chatterjee not to set any questions from Tort. These gentlemen, however, by false and unfair insinuations do nothing but ruin their own reputation."

Nice gentlemen these, to be sure! But, are there really any such black sheep in the plural number in our society to indulge in unfounded imputations on the honour of as true a gentleman as any among us, except the Mahatma of the Manger? In fact, our contemporary seems to have adopted this way of dealing with that rabid person, on the principle of teaching the daughter-in-law by licking the daughter.

THE Anti-Congress agitation is not confined to the Hon. Sir Syed Ahmed. According to the *Express* :—

"A crowded meeting has been held in Benare . . . of Raja Angra. Pandit Chitambar Rao Dharphole, lecturer . . . and extravagant infringe expenses and the reform . . . learning, who has been lately working in the Oudh district . . . thropist, delivered an . . . lecture denouncing the Congress idea."

He proposed that no delegate representing the Benares district should attend the Congress meeting at Allahabad. The time, he said, which was uselessly spent in political agitation by the thinking, or rather unthinking, people of India must be utilized in improving agriculture, social reformation, education, and in promoting the cause of Anglo-Sanskrit education. Raja Ram Shahstri Medale was president, supported by Pandit Makundlal Tewari and Narayan Shastri. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman."

A DISMISSED parcel clerk attached to the Benares cantonment, has sued the station master of Benares for defamation. It appears that the clerk, of 12 years' service, had been reported against by the Station Master for dishonesty, and had to go away. He had the sympathy of several of the European Civil and Military officers of the Cantonment, but their recommendation to reinstate him was of no avail. The Joint Magistrate Mr. C. W. Hope has fixed the case for the 2nd June.

MR. LESLIE SAUNDERS, Commissioner of Berar, was killed, on the morning of 22nd, by a fall while riding at Chikalda in the Ellichpur district.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 19th May amounted to £2,327,900. The Budget estimate for the year 1888-89 is £14,000,000.

SRINAGAR 17. Cholera has slightly increased again in Kashmir. There were 136 new cases and 53 deaths on the 16th against 101 new cases and 45 deaths the day before.

SRINAGAR 19. Cholera continues to increase. 175 new cases and 64 deaths reported at Srinagar to-day. Cholera is said to be bad also at Poonch.

MAHARANEE Sarnamoyee, of Cossimbazar, contemplates soon raising the Berhampur College to the status of a first class college. From the next session it will teach up to the B. A.

IT has been reported from Srinagar that an Englishman with six servants has been buried in an avalanche in the Kaintal nulla in Kishtwar.

AN unusually late and heavy fall of snow occurred in Kabul on the 2nd of May.

AT the suggestion of local antiquarians, Lord Ripon is having extensive diggings made in the grounds of Fountains Abbey for archaeological "finds."

BABOO BROJENDRA NATH DE, C. S., has passed the examination for the degree of Honor in Persian in the 1st Division, and has obtained the usual donation of Rs. 4,000.

SHATYA PRATAP SINGH, Maharajah of Satara, of the House of the historic Sivaji, has established a Brahma Somaj in his palace at Puna, which is attended by the Maharajah, and deferentially and inquisitively by his relatives and some outsiders.

THE town of Moni, capital of the Shan State of that name, was recently sacked and burnt by Twet Nga Lu, a filibuster, who has recently given some trouble in the states in that neighbourhood. News was received on the night of the 15th instant that Mr. Scott, the Assistant Superintendent of the Shan States, with Lieutenant Fowler and half a dozen men of the Rifle Brigade, mounted on officers' ponies made a plucky dash upon the place and secured the person of Twet Nga Lu, who is being brought into Fort Stedman.

THE following from Burma :—Rangoon 15th. The Northern Division generally quiet with the exception of Mogaung which is still a little disturbed. In the case of a dacoity in Shwebo the police pursued and killed two dacoits, wounded three, and captured some arms. The Eastern Division quiet. In the Central Division the Sagaing district continues disturbed: an important dacoit leader was killed and another captured during the week. Five dacoits were killed in the Myingyan district. In the Minbu district Inspector Locke with military police

considered By To's gang and after two hours' engagement killed 15 coits and captured some arms; three men only on his side being punded. Nothing important in Lower Burma. The gang of dacoits o caused the recent disturbances in Tavoy is retreating to Siam. ro Shans concerned in the attack on Nabule have been arrested. rjor Adamson is working up the facts about the disturbance.

E read in the Ladies' Column of the Bombay Times :—

"In a new play that has caused some sensation in Paris called e Puits qui Parle, the figure of Truth, illustrated by a young woman remely scantily clad, grows into life before the eyes of the astonished lience, and being at last quite animated descends on to the stage m her well and speaks. She then returns to the edge of the well, d gradually the life seems to fade entirely away, and she is again a rble statue. Heavy prices have been offered to the manager to eal the way in which it is done, but he still prefers to keep his secret, d those who assist him to perform this trick are bound over by heavy es not to divulge it."

That is the Revolutionary Festival of Reason *redivivus*, within doors.

..

RE following some time ago appeared in a London letter to one of the pers :—

"Mr. Cordery too has come home at a wrong time. He arrived on nday last. By this time his ears must have tingled a good deal, his ear especially, for some very uncomplimentary things have been d about him lately. No one believes that Sir Horace Rumbold would ve obtained a single Halli Sicca rupee from the Treasury at Hydera- d but for the 'countenance' of the Resident. Mr. Peter MacLagan, P., backed by a well-known Englishman possessing interest in Hy- abad, in the House of Commons, and the *St. James's Gazette* outside, ween them will make matters particularly unpleasant for all the rties to the successful demand on Hyderabad Treasury.

You know many of the facts in this scandalous case, but some may ne to the surface here which are kept below ground in India. Among se will be found a letter in last night's *St. James's Gazette*, signed

It should not be difficult to identify the writer. He gives some ot starting instances of over charges, not to say anything stronger, le by the Palmer firm. What, however, I have not seen anywhere ed is the handsome manner in which Wm. Palmer and his relatives e treated by the Nizam after the failure of the firm. A letter, dated 1 March, 1840, is extant, addressed by old Wm. Palmer to General ser, Resident at Hyderabad, in which that gentleman describes the sions he and his family received from the State as follows :—

I receive ...	...	per month	Rs. 2,500
My brother ...	...	"	" 1,000
My son Mr. W. Palmer ...	...	"	" 600
My nephew, Mr. H. Arrow ...	...	"	" 400

more than twenty years after that date these handsome payments re continued at least so far as Mr. Wm. Palmer was concerned. Say, s amount was enjoyed for thirty years only, and a simple sum in hmetic will show that, not counting interest, over sixteen lakhs of rupees (not as now depreciated, but) worth two shillings each have a paid to the Palmer family."

..

Nov. Opinion quotes three Sindhi proverbs, adduced by a cor- sident of the *Civil and Military Gazette*, showing how the Sindhi rds his neighbour the Panjabi, as argument against the annexation ind to the Punjab :—

1. Snake cherish ! Panjabi perish !
Of the same water are cow and ass,
They both belong to the Panjab class.
When one Panjabi comes, you'll soon find two. When two Pan- s come, no room for you."

..

MAL breath is more poisonous than carbonic acid. Professor wn-Sequard has found from the condensed watery vapour of the red air a poisonous liquid, which, injected under the skin of rabbits, luced immediate death. He considers this poison an alkaloid and a microbe. The rabbits died without convulsions, the heart and e blood vessels being engorged with blood.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—It is impossible entirely to prevent oxious vapours which are given off in mines and tunnels, and e who, like miners and railway operatives, have to work day after in such vitiated atmospheres, suffer in health and strength in conse- ice. The chest and liver often become clogged with the products al combustion, necessitating great attention to the health. No dy is more valuable for miners and the like than Holloway's Pills, ey carry off all effete matter from the blood, and healthily stimulate ver. They are also invaluable for costive bowels and for all bilious less. The Ointment is a priceless remedy for piles, sprains, and all manner of sores.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Dewanship of Indore left vacant by the flight of R. Raghoonath Row, has been filled by Rao Bahadur Venyak Janardan Kirtane, late Naib Dewan of Baroda. The new Dewan assumed office on the 17th.

THE Vice-Chancellor and Syndicate of the Calcutta University have at last ordered publication of a result of the Entrance Examination. The List of successful candidates gives 477 in the first division, 1138 in the second and 1105 in the third, or a total of 2720. Of the Calcutta Institutions, the Metropolitan returns the largest number—and a fisherboy. But how to account for the delay? And what about the mathematical examiners who made short work of the answers by numbering them without going through them? Out with it, Mr. Registrar, if you please !

THE new temporary Judges of the Calcutta High Court, the Hon'ble Messrs. R. F. Rampini and H. W. Gordon, to their seats in the forenoon of the 30th ultimo. But the work for the Judges is very light. There are no arrears to bring up and the institution of cases has been reduced to half by the enforcement, from the commencement of April last, of Sec. 551 of the Civil Procedure Code, which empowers confirmation of decision of the lower Court without sending it notice of appeal or for records.

THERE was the usual Garden Party of the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation on the Queen's Birthday. Notwithstanding Sir Henry Harrison's municipal bill just passed by the Local Council, the party was well-attended. In the procession was noticed, the absence of progressive nat... one—who would muster strong on former of... and... same roof. Is it possible that both sides have b... disillusionised?

THE Shiahs and Soonnees ha... on the evening of the 17th, near a mosque at Kazigunge, at Allahabad. As the mosque is a Shiah place of worship, the Soonnees, vain of their numbers, were probably the aggressors. Blows were exchanged in right earnest, and several on each side were wounded. Seeing their assailants every moment swell in number, the Shiahs adopted the policy of discretion and retreated before the host and barricaded tl... selves within their mosque, or else the consequences would have been far more serious. The Police, by instinct led, kept themselves out of the business till it was all over, when they made the usual sounding demonstration on the spot, charging upon the wayfarers, seizing and maltreating every body—but those who had any hand in the disturbance.

THE champion of Native rights and the hero of the Arnigad case has now devoted himself to the cause of Hinduism. He is "stumping" the country against the confiscation of a temple at Benares. On behalf of Ram Chunder Rao Paindey, Trustee for the Temples of Gunnessh, Shiva, and Appurna and the Chattra in the City of Benares, Captain Hearsey claims red... of Government securities for 3 lacs of Rupees and value... damages of move- able and immoveable property sold and... ed in 1858. As may easily be supposed, Government is u... to re-open a case thirty years old, but the Captain is not the... easily silenced. He has been touring the country, enlisting sympathy... the Hindus in his cause. Meetings have been held at Dehra Doon, Lathi, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Luckhempur, Fyzabad and Benares, and his petition supported by signatories at Saharanpur, Lucknow, Cawnpore, and Sitapur. And now he lays siege to the metropolis.

THE liberality with which the Government has treated the so-called princes of Metiabronj to the neglect of the true blood-royal, has raised expectations in other hearts. We read in the *Indian Daily News* :—

"Nawab Zaighomud Dowlah, son of the late Nawab Syed Ali Nokhee, Khan Bahadour, Prime Minister of Oudh, has presented a petition to His Excellency the Viceroy, setting... the position of his father and his services in connection with the... sition of Oudh. His father had Rs. 25,000 monthly as Prime Min... The King promised him and his family Rs. 4,000 per month for... me but discontinued it, saying that, as his father was loyal to the... the pension and he should look to them for help. The King stop... the pension and told him to... his pension from the Oudh... e of delay in making his... ion, and his present posi... has tried to obtain... sh put in offices... veral well-known... Rs. 100 per month. He re...

officers who can bear witness to his position and deserts. Should a pension be not granted to him, he desires at least a suitable berth in some department of the service, in order that he may honourably support himself and his family. He observes that many servants and members of the Oudh family are in receipt of pensions whose claims are much inferior to his own."

By the Oudh Estate, doubtless the kingdom of Oudh is meant. The Nawab is not well advised in asking for an appointment. He will not get a decent one, and will not keep it if he got one. It is impossible not to sympathise with his family, however. They have a real claim upon the revenues of Oudh, which Nawab Ali Nukkee Khan betrayed into the hands of Lord Dalhousie. Ali Nukkee did not care for pensions or jaghires, being immensely rich. How his wealth was dissipated within a few short years of his death, is one of the mysteries of Matiabrooj, which the Political Agency ought to account for. The prodigality of the two sons was by no means so extraordinary as to prove so ruinous.

FROM the *pro* *Gazette* official, we find that Messrs. Sibold and Williams, of Jul *have* offered to construct a Tramway within that town. It is *to be* a single line of the metre gauge and worked by steam, the mileage being fixed at Rs. 500. There are to be two classes of passengers, the lower fare not exceeding one anna per mile and the higher class at double that rate. The Company bind themselves to a penalty of Rs. 200 for any breach of the conditions not provided for in the draft deed or in the Tramway Act, and a further daily fine of Rs. 50 for continuance of the breach. We hope there will be no hurry in closing with the offer, particularly as extensive private and public interests are involved. The *Commissioner* ought to profit by the Bengal experience. A tramway introduced into *is* at best a nuisance. Care should *be* taken. In new and growing towns *is* widened in especial for the *idea* of suspecting the *nothing*, and speaking *of* the past, particularly in the presence of the Parliamentary Committee on the Hyderabad Company frauds, we are bound to warn the public against being taken in and the Government against permitting any abuse of the concession. We hope there is no *benami* in the project, as in Calcutta. No official speculators should be allowed to fatten at the expense of private investors, of the municipality, and of the public.

THE new number of the *English Review* opens with a remarkable article, brilliant and overflowing with information and criticism, on the late Egypto-British campaign of six years back. It is attributed by the *Army & Navy Gazette* to the vigorous pen of Sir Edward Hamley and to the *of* his literary reputation. It recalls the palmy days *of* *It* criticises with an unsparing hand Colonel Maurice's *History of the Campaign of 1882 in Egypt*. The *of* the paper lies chiefly in its exposure of the British *of* the unhappy Land of the Pharaohs. With a masterly *of* traces the beginnings and progress of the unprincipled *of* foreign money-lenders and other adventurers in the government. He thoroughly unmasks the plea that makes the *of* responsible for the calamities *of* on the British aggressions and occupation. *of* to injury and is unworthy of all true Englishmen. The *of* with Lieutenant-Colonel von Vogt that the action of the *of* in taking the affairs of their country in hand—the so-called revolt of Arabi the Egyptian—"was the result of a very natural reaction against the financial drain caused by European money-lenders and banking establishments." He scouts the pretence that the expedition to Egypt was caused by alarm at Arabi's attempt to tamper with the Suez Canal. The British Expedition was a foregone conclusion. The writer says:—

"Early *of* officer had been specially despatched to report upon the *of* from Ismailia to Cairo, and had brought back much data *of*."

The *Army* *Gazette* goes further—

"If we *of* mistaken, an officer had made inquiries upon the whole *of* in a hostile occupation the *of* before." Colonel *of* denounces the bombardment *of*."

ONE of the *of* the Glasgow *of* an oil painting *of* attributed, on which *of* Scott,

of Torquay, formerly of Darjeeling, is engaged. It represents a twilight scene in the Himalayas with the new moon just peeping from behind the distant ranges. It is appropriately designated by a Horatian phrase—*Purpurei Orientis honores* (*Eastern purple honors*)—being a gorgeous effect in colours.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* writes:—

"An officer sends from Mandalay some interesting notes as to the progress of civilisation in that new British station in the East. The city, he says, is quite transformed. The native city within the walls has disappeared in salutary fires. The whole aspect of the place is changed. Barracks for the British garrison, public offices, and residences for the officials replace the old streets of planks and mud studded on stilts along the edge of the broad, rectangular, and quite unsavoury and wholly unpaved streets. Now the roadways are macadamised; the houses are of substantial brick; the barracks are of the cheap and abundant teak of the country. Mr. Crosshwait's new house is built on a part of the broad city wall. New gardens are laid out; those around the Palace are greatly improved. The Palace is utilised for official residences, and serves the purposes of a Secretariat. The new native town springing up outside the walls is progressing down the broad causeways leading to the river, which were marked out by our engineers a month after the occupation. There is security for life and property, and the city hopes for a future of prosperity. Meanwhile, Mandalay within the walls is becoming, if it be not actually, the finest cantonment in the Empire. We wonder if the natives agree with our correspondent in this view of the improvers' work in the city. We hope they do; for, after all, the officials were made for the people, and not the people for the officials."

Can the writer deceive himself that a people can possibly be reconciled by macadamised roads and good barracks (for a foreign garrison) to loss of their country? Ask the Mandalayites how they like the British polishing—in every way! As well ask the geese how they enjoy plucking?

EXILED from home, the French Princes are not to have peace or fair play even abroad. It appears that the Duc d'Orleans, the eldest son of the Comte de Paris, who has been travelling in India, is to be attached to one of the Indian regiments. Thereupon a writer in *Truth* cries out against the employment in India of the eldest son of the head of "that intriguing clan." He asserts that the appointment cannot be regarded in France except as a mark of decided hostility. Indeed! And what if it be so? Surely, England was not so reduced as to stint her old courtesy to strangers in dread of the unreasonable prejudices of other nations. What a difference between the nervousness of this writer and the noble boast of Curran!

FROM men to things is a natural step, without implying the degradation involved in the descent from the sublime to the ridiculous. From rehabilitating bad characters to rehabilitating bad places, can scarcely be an awkward or difficult transition. Accordingly, we find that the criticism and inquiry of the day, after rescuing from reproach the black legs of history, proceed to illumine its dark places. Who would have thought of the possibility of vindicating the Bastille! In the annals of Europe, there is not a spot of more terrible associations—of infamous memory than that prison of the old Monarchy of France. Whatever dispute there may be as to the principles and proceedings of that political earthquake which overtook France towards the end of the last century, about the Bastille there is a singular agreement. The destruction of it has ever been regarded by all as the most unexceptional achievement of the Revolution. The fervid generosity of Burke did indeed put in a word in favor of that old prison. But he was promptly rebuked by young Mackintosh and mercilessly handled by that formidable pamphleteer Tom Paine. As regards the Bastille at any rate, all parties have endorsed the view of the great British Parliamentary opponents. The Bastille has thus come down to us as the embodiment of the tyranny, cruelty, unfairness and baseness of all that was foul in the *ancien régime*. But a change has come over the spirit of the Age. With the progress of liberality of sentiment and loyalty to truth, beliefs have been shaken—the most settled positions upturned. The Bastille has had the advantage of that fair play which is not now denied to the blackest demons of history. It has found an able and pains-taking defender in Captain the Hon. D. Bingham. He has gone into its history with resolute ardour, and now announces the result of his inquiry in two volumes. The result is highly favourable to the credit of the place. It exposes the injustice that mankind has, during more than ninety years of time, has done. The old dungeon has been the victim of a prejudice.

The Bastille was, after all, no very ominous thing. It was a strong place—a fortified gaol—that was all. The dark underground dungeons

which have frightened the imaginations of so many generations, were simply ice-houses. As a prison, there was nothing exceptional—no cruelties nor oppressions of any kind. No, not even squalor or overcrowding or starving of the inmates. There was no harshness even towards the worst *badmashes*, whether literary, political, or miscellaneous. What a Paradise for such scamps as some who prowl almost us, to the disturbance of honest citizens and the disgrace of legitimate public affairs and true letters! There was far more light and air, humanity and comfort, than in most prisons of the period, if John Howard is to be believed. And there was no gaol-fever of course. As compared with old Newgate, for example, it was a delightful place.

THE dapper Duke is not given to effusion, but the Irish madness is gradually infecting the most cool-headed, and so we find His Grace of Argyle giving himself up to this sort of dissipation at the Guildhall, Cambridge, which is reported in the papers. Speaking on the Union with England and Scotland, he proceeded to describe

"the feelings with which he as a Scotsman approached the question. He said that not very long ago, among some family papers, he saw an account of things done by those who had gone before him, and whose name he bore, which made him desire to see the field of Bannockburn, on which Scotland succeeded in maintaining her independence against the serried ranks of the English army. He went to it and stood where Robert Bruce had stood, and where his own ancestor had stood beside him. It was a glorious autumn day, and he recalled incidents of the battle, concluding with the little Bannock running with the best blood of England and France, and he shouted for joy at the remembrance of it."

A strange avowal that! Joy at the idea of a stream flowing with human blood! The Duke of Argyle was known to be a cynic, and he appears to be something more hideous than a misanthrope. That reminds us of the brither Sawny who was discovered in a cave full of skulls and flesh of his victims near Edinburgh.

FOR want of better excitement, Society in England has lately been making the most of the dispute of a couple of old women for social precedence and literary pretension. The ladies of Great Britain decided to present the Princess of Wales with an address and a diamond tiara on the occasion of the silver wedding. The ladies are divided in politics according to their family preferences, and those of each party put up their own representative for the honor of reading the address and presenting the jewel. The Liberal fair constituted the Marchioness of Ailesbury as their mouthpiece and charged her with the drawing up of the address. She is a fine specimen of venerable womankind, accomplished and agreeable, a famous talker, not in the sense of ancient garrulity, but full of vivacity. She prepared the draft and sent it on to the leading lady of the Tories—the Marchioness of Salisbury. She is mare meet to mate with the horse—quite as formidable among her kind as the Marquis among his. She acknowledged receipt and wrote back to the Gladstonian Marchioness:—

"Do you really expect me to put my name to an effusion not one sentence of which is English?"

That ought to be some consolation to our countrymen so often accused of "Babooese." The prospect is not, however, cheering for those Indians who loyally strive to learn their sovereign's tongue in its purity, seeing that high ladies of her own Court are liable to the reproach of inaccuracy and barbarism. Verily, the Queen's English is an unknown quantity or rather a slippery quality!

THE *Mirror's* Cooch Behar Correspondent writes:—

"The Superintendent of State's term of office will expire in November next, I believe. It is hoped that the Maharajah will feel no delicacy in bringing in another qualified man, be he a European or Native, to fill the most responsible and high post in the administration of the State. If the services of such men as Dewan Raghu Nath Rao or Sir T. Madhava Rao could be secured, the necessity of having two such big officers as that of the Dewan and of the Superintendent of the State might be dispensed with. Suggestions to this effect, I hear, have been made to His Highness. They should have his best consideration."

That is a fine appreciation of the services of Captain Gordon and Babu Kalicadas Dutt, and a quiet hint. But what a compliment is paid to Bengal by the suggestion to bring up a Rao Bahadoor all the way to manage Cooch Behar! Is there such a virtue in Grimm's Law? Will not a Roy do, with or without Bahadoor? Or even a Bose or a Ghose or even a Chatterjee, notwithstanding the barking from the well-known manger? What! are even Sens so discredited in Cooch Behar? We still swear by Norender!

The same writer adds:—

"The post of Secretary to the State Council having fallen vacant, one Jagomohun Tagore from the Central Provinces applies for it. His Highness has written to the Commissioner, Central Provinces, for the loan of his service."

So the compliment has been already paid—by the left hand.

Native Opinion of the 20th instant has an interesting account of the rise of the new little state of Zanzibar on the African Coast. Originally an Arab colony, peopled by the chiefs of Muscat with emigrants from Oman, its prosperity was due to the enterprise of Hindus and Mussulmans from the Western Coast of India who settled there or traded with it. Two brothers were contending for supremacy over it when Lord Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay, interfered and persuaded them to divide their possessions, one keeping Oman with Muscat for his capital, and the other remaining as independent sovereign of the islands on the African Coast, the principal of which is Zanzibar. The first ruler of Zanzibar has been followed by two successors. The last was Sayed Bargash who had been in his youth an exile in Bombay. Not long after ascending his throne, he went to Europe for a couple of years, accompanied by Dr. now Sir John Kirk, the British Consul. He was a sensible if somewhat severe and grasping man, who promoted commerce by every means in his power, improving his town, making roads, lighting them, providing water, &c. His eldest son being a lad of eleven by a Georgian concubine, the late ruler's brother has succeeded him. He was living in obscurity on a farm in the interior when he was called to the throne. He is, however, a man of no weight or experience. The romance of this petty peddling Arab principality, which long lived on slavery and would now revert to a corsair state if Britain would or could allow it, is supplied by Syed Bargash's sister. She fell strangely in love with a German and married the Nazarene with whom she went to Europe. She returned on board a gun-boat to prosecute her claims while her brother was still living, but did not land. She returned back to Europe after obtaining her dues. She may yet turn up at a convenient juncture.

THE present High Court has been distinguished for the trial of the most sensational crimes committed in the metropolis of late years. The last case, popularly known as the Doveton murder, was the first tried. Meher Ali, the son of the Doveton Girls' Institution, with two others, was accused of murdering his son-in-law—husband of his foster-daughter—Shaikh Hori, in one of the out-offices of the Institution in the middle of the day, after a brief altercation about a demand made by the victim for some two hundred Rupees owing to him, and after well strangling him with a rope, putting the body in a box which was left on the bank of the river. It was the box, which happened to contain an empty phial with a label on, that connected the Doveton school with the occurrence. The evidence was simply of this circumstantial kind. The prisoners were ably defended, Meher Ali by Mr. M. P. Gasper, and the others by Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose. The presiding Judge was the Nestor of the Bench. For though Mr. Justice Wilson has strangely disappointed in the Tangail case, he is still our brightest jewel of the Court. His judicial temper and demeanour are exemplary, and for summing up he has no equal. Yet in this case, in his anxiety to see that the offender did not escape justice, he was a little hasty in assuming a murder where all the surrounding circumstances pointed more to accident—culpable homicide at most. The Jury returned a verdict of guilty of murder against Meher Ali and acquitted the other prisoners. The Judge accepted the verdicts and discharged the latter. Meher Ali was as usual asked if he had to urge anything why capital sentence should not be pronounced on him. He answered he had not murdered. So the Judge performed the most painful function of the judicial office and pronounced the awful sentence of death. As Meher Ali was being carried out of the Court House he addressed the crowd, commenting on the strangeness of the justice that convicted one of three men implicated in the same offence. Perhaps he said more, but that is all that has been reported. On meeting his son he abused him for wasting the best part of his hard-earned fortune in defending him. He directed him to send him all his papers to the jail as he wished to make a proper disposition of his remaining property. And a proper disposition he has made, leaving one half to his son and the other moiety to be divided between the brother and the deceased Hori.

Meanwhile, the true facts have oozed out to society, and a strong appeal has been made by many of the most respectable and honoured members of the community, in which most of the Jury have joined, praying for the commutation of the capital sentence on Meher Ali.

The case of the murder of the retired member Baboo Khetter Nath has been nearly concluded. On Monday Mr. Justice Wilson will deliver his charge.

A FAR more powerful extension of Calcutta has been found. The law-governor-General in council alone power to extend the limits of the city. The annexation of the best part of the 24-Parganas District by a Bill just passed in the Bengal Council is, therefore, *ultra vires*. It is it that the question was not raised in Council and discussed specially with so many limbs of the law in it? It would have been just like them to take such a crushing preliminary objection. But better late than never. The Law Member of the Viceregal Council has now received formal notice of the illegality of this Bengal effort at law-making, and we are sure the matter will receive the best consideration at his hands. Mr. Scoble has been all his life practising the law and knows the respect due to it, and he is no mere book-lawyer and speculator, like so many of his predecessors including the most eminent of them.

It will not do to say that the extension is for municipal purposes only, nor can any Viceregal extension be limited to municipal purposes.

WE understand and we are once with pleasure, that Government has favourably accepted the recommendation, made in these columns in 1886, for awarding the Victoria Cross to deserving members of the Native Army of Her Majesty.

THE ex-Dewan Luchman Das of Cashmere is playing the truant. He has not yet entered appearance in the Commission appointed to try him, although summoned no less than eight times.

SPECULATION is still rife as to the date of the Viceroy's departure. The *Englishman's* Simla Correspondent mentions a rumour that Lord Dufferin contemplates remaining in India till the end of the year on the authority of a private telegram. As the Viceroy is to leave at the time. And all after the recent authorities have said that he will not see that at present. He is to leave in the autumn, and everything depends upon the movements of the Viceroy. That nobleman has left America, and there is no knowing by what time he is likely to reach India.

WITH the retirement of Col. Prideaux, the Political Agency on the King of Oudh, merges in the 24-Parganas Collectorate. The gallant Colonel had recommended his immediate assistant in the Government's pay for Deputy Collectorship and Deputy Agency in local Oudh affairs after the precedent of the Nizamut. The Government, perhaps now grown wiser, would not sanction the job, and has appointed the Hon'ble Abdool Jubbar under the Collector to administer the affairs. The Moulvie is on leave, however, Baboo Hem Chunder Kerr acts temporarily. The other assistant in the pay of the King now sports a certificate of good conduct and efficiency under the hand and seal of the Colonel. He has had his day. Introduced on a salary of Rs. 82, he was ordered to draw Rs. 750 a month.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1888.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION— A DISAPPOINTMENT.

OUR last week's article requires an explanation. In the anguish of disappointment at the outcome of the Commission, we have been betrayed into some injustice, perhaps. In saying that the subject of a simultaneous competition for the Covenanted Civil Service in India had been disposed of in the Report summarily, merely with the *ipse dixit* that such a competition in this country was undesirable, we overstated the case against the Commission. Considering the importance of the point, as well as the great value set upon it by numerous classes of the Indian population, and the opinion of the kind on the part of the Commission, indeed, hardly possible, and, after more careful consideration, we are glad to find ourselves wrong, so far as the fact itself is concerned. The subject has received the consideration of the Commission, although the conclusion is all but unsatisfactory.

In further justice to the Commission as a whole, it ought to be stated that not a little have representatives of the Native interests themselves contributed towards such a conclusion. Indeed, we have to thank ourselves if its decision is not otherwise. Three of the Native Commissioners, to wit, Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter, and Messrs. Rawaswami Mudaliyar and Krishnaji Lukshman Nulkar, did not, indeed, share in the apprehensions generally felt as to the probable result of the introduction of an Indian competition, but neither was their support of it at all vigorous nor full-hearted. For the rest, the other native members, together with no inconsiderable number of native witnesses who gave their evidence, were fascinated by the charms of an English training, and outvied the English supporters of a practical monopoly in their advocacy of an antipodal trial for Indian youth. The Commission has thus been placed in a position to state, that the evidence tendered before it supports the conclusion that the English competition "is very favorably looked upon by large and important classes in India." The judgment has gone against us by our own fault. Our own representatives have belied the real Indian feeling on the question. The social and political disability implied in the existence of an arrangement, ostensibly based on considerations of race and religion, is to be perpetuated at the instance of a handful of Indian agitators themselves.

Our regret at the Commission's decision is the keener as it professes to be final. Not only under the terms of the Government Resolution, was the object of the appointment of the Commission declared to be "to devise a scheme which may reasonably be hoped to possess the necessary elements of finality," but the language in which the decision is conveyed by the Commission, leaves little room for hope that the question can be reopened at any measurable distance of time. "On a full consideration," says the Commission, "of the evidence before it, the Commission has come to the conclusion that it is inexpedient to hold an examination in India for the Covenanted Civil Service simultaneously with the examination in London." The terms are absolute, and without any qualification as to time. Such qualification as to time is, however, distinctly made in referring to the objections to an Indian competition. One of these objections is noticed by the Commission to be "that Indian schools and colleges do not at the present time supply an education and training of the high and liberal kind considered to be a necessary qualification for admission to the to the Indian Civil Service...." The italics are ours. This argument is certainly pertinent to the question, and if it was considered to be of force, it could justly furnish reason for postponing the simultaneous examination in India till such time as the standard of Indian education arrived at the necessary degree of perfection and completeness. A limitation as to time might reasonably be assigned to the Commission's recommendation. Again, if the state of Indian education did not furnish the required degree of qualification, there could be little harm in having a tentative competition which, as it was bound to fail, would thereby be a most effective answer to the party demanding an Indian examination, while at the same time it would go far to conciliate that party by showing that it was no adverse policy but merely the inherent impracticability of the thing itself that was against the adoption of their proposal. Other objections, besides the one based on the educational backwardness of this

country, had certainly their due weight with the Commission, or we might have looked for a decision given with limitations and without the character of finality. What those other objections are, have been summarized in the Report. The *pros* and *cons* of the question are thus given:—

"Briefly stated, the arguments usually advanced by those who favor the plan of a competition examination in India are that the introduction of some such system is necessary to remove obstacles which at present preclude natives of India from competing on terms of equality with British born subjects of her Majesty, and that the interposition of such obstacles is inconsistent with the statute of 1833 and Queen's proclamation of 1858. In the first place there are religious and caste objections, to which the Commission will hereafter refer, which debar members of certain classes from crossing the sea. But even when these objections do not exist, it is argued with much force that Indian parents are naturally reluctant to send their children at a comparatively early age to a distant country, where they are exposed to many temptations, and where sufficient supervision may not be exercised over them; and it is still more strongly insisted that considerations of expense deter many native youths from appearing as candidates at the examination in England, especially in view of the risk of failure, which, under the conditions of the English examination, must always be great in the case of Indian candidates. These difficulties, it is said, deter many of the best natives of India from seeking entrance to the covenanted Civil Service, and practically have the effect of a race disqualification.

On the other hand, it is argued that in the present circumstances of social life in India, open competition in that country would not justify to the same extent as similar competition in England, the presumption that the successful candidates would possess in a sufficient degree the qualities essential for high administrative office, that Indian schools and colleges do not at the present time supply an education and training of the high and liberal kind considered to be a necessary qualification for admission to the Indian Civil Service, and that an open competition in India for the covenanted would operate with inequality, excluding altogether some important classes of the community, while giving undue advantage to others. It is further argued that it could scarcely fail—in view, on the one hand of the large number of candidates who would offer themselves for examination, and, on the other hand, of the small number who could, under any circumstances, be successful,—to create a large disappointed, and thereby probably discontented, class which would cause considerable embarrassment to the Government. Doubts have been also expressed whether pressure would not sooner or later be brought to bear on the Government with a view to make the examination of a less English and a more Oriental character and to adjust it on terms more favorable to Native candidates. Again some witnesses have referred to the injurious effect which, in their opinion, would be exercised upon the development of education in this country by an open competition for the Civil Service. It is urged that in view of the value of the prizes offered, such an examination would be followed by the creation of private establishments for the main, if not sole, purpose of offering special preparation to intending candidates, while the regular educational institutions would scarcely be able to resist the temptation of so shaping the course of their study as to secure success at the Indian examination rather than to impart a general liberal education to the mass of their scholars. Some witnesses, indeed, have expressed the opinion that the effect of unqualified competition in India on general education would be so disastrous as to constitute a national evil of great ultimate importance. There are two other objections taken to the establishment in India of competitive examinations for the Civil Service to which it is necessary to refer, namely, the difficulty which would be experienced in maintaining the secrecy of the examination papers, and in making satisfactory arrangements for that part of the examination which is conducted *viva voce*. It is said that experience in connection with examinations in India has shown very real difficulties to exist under the former of these heads, which, if not actually insurmountable, are at all events sufficient to suggest the necessity for the greatest caution. As regards the *viva voce* examination, it is contended that it would be impossible to secure either uniformity of test or the high standard exacted in England, if the work were undertaken by the professional staff available in India."

We have reproduced the Commission's summary of arguments for and against an Indian examination, for the benefit of our readers. Let them ponder these, and judge if they are such as to justify the decision to which the Commission has come. If the question is one of qualification, nothing can be fairer than that the same test should be applied here as in London, for testing them, and that those alone should be admitted who pass the test which, notwithstanding the special pleading as regards the difficulties of a *viva voce* and honest examination in India, may easily be made the same at both places.

THE KYD STREET ACCIDENT AND UNSAFE HOUSES.

Not long ago, one fine day, Calcutta was startled by a domestic calamity to one of its residents. It was nothing less than the sudden coming down of a house

with dwellers in it. The house was a large three storeyed one in a quarter of the European town, which, whatever its medieval name, was as respectable enough for, and has been thoroughly sweetened by, the continual residence of the gentleman of the city, Sir Henry Harrison, and it was at the time tenanted by its owner, a respectable Jewish lady, Mrs. Rebecca Sasson. The accident created a sensation throughout the country and an actual alarm in the town itself. As the house was to all appearance sound, it was feared that we might all some day be overtaken by a similar fate. Accordingly, a natural curiosity was manifested as to the cause of the accident. But now, we are afraid, without being a whit wiser, we have resigned ourselves to the old indifference. The subject is worth a reminder, however.

In connection with the recent fall of Mrs. Rebecca Sasson's house in Kyd Street in this city, the *Indian Spectator* has opportunely reminded the public of a similar accident, with consequences even more unfortunate, not long ago, in Bombay. The Honourable Narayan Wassudeo, one of the leading men of the Presidency, at the time of his death a member of the local Legislative Council, was suddenly buried alive by the tumbling down of a portion of his house. The reminiscence is timely. Although in Calcutta the good Jewess was brought out of the ruins of her dwelling with no serious injury, while the Honourable Hindoo was crushed to death between the two accidents. Wassudeo lived on Malabar Hill in a house hired by him for the purpose. It proved to have been a too costly whistle. He was not only out of pocket of a large sum for consideration, but he finally paid for it with his life into the bargain. It was a large house, but old and decayed. He had decided upon a general rehabilitation. Some alterations were in progress before a thorough repair. While the work was in the very act of superintending these works, all of a sudden the part which was being operated upon of the house came down about his ears and engulfed him, crushing his body and his life out of it, unlucky man! Here, too, in Calcutta, the house in Kyd Street was a great shaky pile, which had been condemned by engineers. It ought to have been taken down. It is too odious a suggestion to any owner that the owner lived in it, all the extensive repairs and repairs necessary for safety were ordered and undertaken. But the owner would not remove to other quarters in the meantime. And for other reasons. For one thing, removal is such a bother; it tries the most heavenly temper. So she clung on, clinging to her home to the bitter end. She was indeed a martyr to her love of comfort and home. It was bad enough to have a whole army of *maistrees* and masons and their myrmidons invading your home and murdering all quiet at day if not also sleep at night, and dislodging you from room to room in your own home. But you can at least make an orderly retreat with all your forces and all your baggage, without the loss sure to be entailed on long marches. Poor Rebecca elected the easier and more comfortable alternative. She remained in her house while the changes in the building proceeded, shifting from apartment to apartment. While the process was in progress, one day, without special notice, the whole pile came down with a crash. More lucky than the Hindoo, Mrs. Sasson escaped unscathed. It is a pity that the same hap. What conduct, she

certainly was without advice in what she did. She must have been told there was no great risk. She had certainly lived in much larger edifices—great American hotels—moving while the houses were full and occupied. Usual. Why should not a comparatively small private dwelling be repaired with safety to the inmates? Up to this time, indeed, no satisfactory explanation of the great crash has appeared, which is a pity, seeing that other houses in the same condition may come down without warning, and with more disastrous consequences perhaps. It is necessary to know the specific source of danger in the tumbled down house. The previous condemnation is little to the purpose now. Surely, that condemnation was not specific and peremptory enough, else no man or woman in his or her senses would have remained in it while it was being taken down in parts. The house was not near the street to be affected by vibration of the ground from carriages passing; there was a broad garden between the street and the building that fell down. Nor was it in the rainy season when the soil is soft from continual wet, nor after days of down-pour, that the house gave way. These are important considerations in estimating the cause of the accident. The matter concerns all residents, and they ought not to be without a thorough inquiry.

The above has been in type for some time. Since then, an official report has appeared, the result of Coroner's inquest. But it is far from conclusive. The lady's evidence of the effect of the gun-firing in Fort on the house on the day before the fall, is evidently colored by her nervousness since. If the effect was so very striking, how did she still stick to the house? The professional opinion that would predicate weakness of a wall because it was made of small bricks is worth little attention. We know that our strongest houses are made of the old small bricks laid on one another with a layer of mere earthen jelly without any cementing property between.

THE NEW ANGLO-INDIAN DAILY.

THE *Morning Post* may yet be a formidable rival to the older journals; it is said to have already caused a diversion; but as yet it is not quite free from the defects of a new concern. The editing would be the better for a little more care. A competent "reader" is badly wanted on the staff. The paper teems with typographical oddities. Such errors as "good, humou" are always disagreeable and should be specially eschewed till the paper has acquired prestige. Such Celtic-looking epithets as "rex" send the unsophisticated reader searching in vain through his dictionaries. The editorial note on "the Mendacious London Correspondent" is a puzzle. It runs thus—

"The 'Indian Nabobs' who attended the Jubilee celebrations will be interested to learn that they have introduced a new drink on their return to their own country. It is known as the Jubilee Peg and is thus concocted: In a large soda water tumbler is placed a lump of ice; on this is poured a large glass of brandy, the tumbler is then filled with champagne; to be drunk while effervescing. The Nabob's visitors are gravely assured the 'Prince of Wales never drinks anything else.' It is by pretty fictions such as this that the London correspondent relieves his disquisitions on local government and other weighty [sic] questions."

What is the meaning of it all? Where have the Indian Nabobs introduced the Jubilee Peg? And where, according to the London Correspondent, are the Nabob's visitors assured of the Prince of Wales' drinking taste, in India, England? Again, we have "A Village Tragedy," as follows:—

"A ghastly story comes from a little hamlet on the banks of the Gogra, the great river in Gonda, three hundred years ago. A woman imagined she received a divine command to destroy his wife's sight [sic] creature was held down himself upon her, deli-

woman succumbed almost immediately, the village chowkidar reporting that she had died from cholera. But murder will out, and the husband, with those who assisted at the rexoth [sic] business, are in the hands of the police. Of all the horrible cases that witch-craft is ansearable [sic] for, none has eclipsed in its awfulness this Gogra tragedy."

That is a poor concluding remark, scarcely showing the calm self-possession of the man of the world, not to say the width of information of an experienced man of culture and reading. Extraction of eyes is rather a common incident in the East. Perhaps by laying stress on witch-craft, the writer meant a quiet hint of the moral superiority of Europe and a sly hit at the barbarity of Asia. In that case, he is at once mischievous and foolish. There is little to choose between the two Continents. But our object is not to notice either the one point or the other, but to draw attention to the first sentence. Surely, that is an original way of introducing news. One is puzzled as to whether he reads of some antiquarian discovery or some incident of the day. Why on earth is the poor reader without notice transported willy nilly behind the centuries? Even there he is left far from comfortable. For the reminiscence to which he is treated, is not familiar matter of history, but something obscure and little known if true. Had the writer recalled the memories of Akbar and his court or of Fatehpore Sicri, it might have been something. But to carry so far back to tell of Khurasa, an old *bustee* in the backwoods of Gonda, is an unwarrantable liberty with the good reader. Geographical and historical allusion lends itself well to embellish and enliven composition, and geographical details are aptly employed to set in narratives. But in telling a common Oudh village story, of the cock and bull species, to dwell on the threshold on "the Gogra, the great river in Oudh," is preposterous. There is still less occasion for introducing "Gonda." It is not even pretended that the village which was the scene of the alleged tragedy, lay in Gogra. For that matter, the writer of the paragraph does not to this day know the whereabouts of the crime he professes to report. The "banks of the Gogra" is too vague for even approximate identification. The absurdity of geographical rhetoric reaches its climax, when the three hundred years old feat of the great river in having swept away a town of which few besides the *savant* of the *Morning Post* have ever heard, is paraded to lend *vraisemblance* to a sensational story without specification of locality such as is daily to be met with in the lowest grade of vernacular papers. On this flimsy basis, the writer is glad to comfort himself with the reflection that bad as Europe was in the past it was far more respectable than Asia is even now.

Geography, indeed, seems to be the weakness of the staff. These gentlemen are at once lofty and vague in their references to places. Another note in the same issue tells us of several mail routes having been altered on account of the incursions of rats whose burrows are dangerous to the mounted couriers and whose ravages have destroyed every blade of grass. But where? That is the necessary question. "In Outer Mongolia," we are told, if anybody in India or in Great Britain knows where that is, any more than he knows "Inner Mongolia." It is all very well to procure a supply of Russian newspapers and draw your sensational notes therefrom. But, as yet, Geography according to Continental authorities is not taught in the British dominions. Before the general reader could derive any positive notions from such literary efforts, he should be provided with a handbook of Russian administrative divisions and civil and military organization.

There are many signs of vitality and enterprise in the new journal. It is evidently under some 'cute heads. Its chief reliance is upon news rather than literary brilliancy or finish. Yet it is acquiring strength in that department. It is doing a solid service to letters by collecting all the scattered edicts of Asoka and laying them before its readers. Is old "Broadbrim" no more? Still the American letters are interesting. We specially congratulate the conductors on having secured at once so able and so distinguished a London Correspondent as "G. B. M." We congratulate the entire Indian reading public on such an acquisition. Colonel Malleson has not lost aught of his old cunning. He is better than ever. He has dropped off his last remaining crudities, and is simply and effectively brilliant. His European summary is necessarily brief but vividly dramatic. He conveys you a truer idea of the political contests at Home than you could get even by wading through the *Times* reports. His descriptions of the great parliamentary debates are great historic pictures. We have run out our space, or we should quote, by way of illustration, the London letter of the 27th April. Such writing is rare enough even in England.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

X.
HUMAYUN.

WHILE Humayun was occupied in repairing his losses, Shir Shah seemed content with his acquisitions in Hindustan; for he wisely sought first to recover possession of Bengal; and afterwards he turned his attention to putting his former territories into a state of order. Whether he would have renewed hostilities is doubtful. Humayun, however, could not rest still under the stinging sense of shame which the memory of his defeats aroused. His honour was involved in the contest; and we know what fine distinctions kings draw in this respect. When a point of honour has to be satisfied, they are generally indifferent to the terrible consequences of war for their subjects. There is nothing new under the sun! Eastern or Western monarchs are moved by the same impulses, and act as heedlessly. Civilised king and barbaric ruler, have the same exaggerated notion of their own importance. The sting of dishonour being the motor, it was but natural that the next eight or nine months should be busily employed by Humayun in military preparations, and at the end of this period Humayun once again marched from Agra, aided with a contingent of 300 of Camran's men. Camran himself retired to Lahore and waited the issue of events.

Shir Shah hearing of these movements had likewise advanced and had by this time reached the Ganges opposite Canouj, when he came within striking distance of his foe. Both hosts remained for some time inactive, each party seemingly unwilling to offer an advantage to the other, till the ill-fortune of Humayun again asserted itself through the desertion of one of his officers, Sultan Mirza, who left his camp with all his own followers; and as his example was so likely to infect others, it determined Humayun to fight the enemy at once. He, therefore, issued orders to cross the Ganges, by the bridge of boats that had been built, and to engage the foe. A general engagement ensued in which Humayun's army was defeated and driven into the river. The defeat was appalling. Humayun himself, who was riding, his horse had been wounded and he must have been killed or taken prisoner, if he had not fortunately found an elephant, on which he mounted. The *mahout*, however, obstinately refused to attempt to swim the Ganges; on which the king threw him from his seat on the neck of the animal, and ordered an eunuch, who was also on the elephant, to guide him across the river. The opposite bank was too steep for an elephant to climb, and Humayun must still have perished, if two soldiers who had landed on that spot had not come to his help; they tied their turbans together and threw one end to him, and by this means he was able to gain the shore. In a little while he was joined by his brothers, Heindal and Askari, and few stragglers from his troops, when the little band made the best of their way to Agra; on the road, however, they were attacked by the villagers and narrowly escaped being plundered if not killed.

Humayun was now despondent, and made haste to remove his family, and the most portable of his treasures from Agra and Delhi, and to flee to Lahore, to Camran. On reaching his destination, he found he was no welcome guest, for Camran was equally afraid of being supplanted by him at Cabul, or of being involved in his quarrel with Shir Shah, with whom, before long, Camran made peace, by relinquishing the Punjabs, and retiring himself to Cabul, leaving the unfortunate Humayun to provide in the best way he could for his own safety.

The deserted Humayun at first did not know where to turn his steps in flight, though he had still some resources in the treasures he had brought with him, and which only waited to be utilized for the purpose of raising a body of mercenary troops; or he might have renounced all hopes of kingly power and retired to a private station in life; he chose the former course as affording him some faint hopes of yet retrieving his former losses. This resolution is further testimony that he was not wanting in courage. It is peculiar that the thoughts of the unfortunate monarch should have been turned to Sindh as the most suitable theatre to begin his experiment. Of all places in India, this was the most unlikely where a man of Humayun's temperament would have gained an ascendancy over its turbulent popu-

tion; yet Sindh was in the hands of a powerful ruler, Hossein Mirza. Having resolved on this course, he entered Arghun's territories. In the negotiations and no less futile hostilities, including the attempted sieges of Bakkar and Sehwan, he wasted a year and half, expended his funds, and exhausted the resources of the surrounding country, with the inevitable consequence of desertion by his mercenary followers. In this extremity he received intelligence that Hossein Arghun was advancing to attack him, and he fled in haste to Uch, on the frontier of Sindh. He barely tarried at this place, and from thence proceeded in the direction of the Rajah of Marwar's territories, whom he supposed to be friendly to his interests, and this belief prompted him to throw himself on the Rajah's protection. It was during Humayun's residence beyond the Indus, that he first met Hamida, the mother of the famous Akber. His step-mother, the mother of Prince Hindal, gave an entertainment in the women's apartments, in honour of the exiled king; probably it was given to counteract the depressing effects of unsuccessful attempts against Bakkar, in which place the army was then occupied besieging. At this entertainment he saw a young lady of extreme beauty, and made such a deep impression on him, that when he found he was not already betrothed, he married her immediately, regardless of the angry remonstrances of his brother.

XI.

Humayun proceeding in his journey towards the territory of the Rajah of Marwar, had reached the neighbourhood of Jodhpore, and was trying passage through the desert, in which he was suffering from thirst and fatigue. When he reached the territory of the Rajah, he expected that the Rajah would most probably deliver him from his troubles rather than assist him, the unfortunate monarch, but to turn back with a heavy heart, to seek comparative safety in the dreary and barren country he had just emerged. However, before he could reach the country, he desired to obtain a supply of water, which could be, in that parched and barren region, the preservation of their lives; but when they reached the water, they were driven back by the heat of the sun, and only able to slake their thirst after a moment's respite. These villagers did not act in a humane manner, but were compelled to seem cruel, for water is a very precious possession in that region, often visited by long seasons of drought. Humayun was thus again forced to undertake the terrible realities of a march across the desert, and for this purpose he set his face towards Amercot, a fort in the desert, not far from the Indus. To reach Amercot was a terrible ordeal, as between his present position and that goal, there lay a terribly desolate tract, so awful in its barrenness, and in the evils and miseries those who traversed it encountered, that it was but natural that his heart shrank from contemplating the journey. He knew from authentic information that what he had suffered in passing once through the desert, was nothing when compared to the trials that now were before him, and which would be increased by his being compelled to begin such a journey without a supply of water, nor had he any hopes of obtaining a supply soon. He had not proceeded far when his difficulties began multiplying, and he felt the burden was made heavier by the presence of the women of his family. Such was the touching and sorrowful beginning of this journey, that none of those who shared in its terrible sufferings, could have forgotten. The pictures of this desert journey must have been so vividly and deeply stamped on the faculty of memory, as to require no effort to recall them.

The little band, in a most exhausted condition, had reached the heart of the desert. They had left far behind the last traces of human culture, and were now struggling with the agonizing sufferings of the desert, to add to their peril, if it were possible to do so, they received one morning, after a night of torment and fatigue, they were followed by a large body of horsemen, who rode upon them; when their worst apprehensions were to be realized, for they found that the son of the Rajah of Marwar commanded these troops, and that he had expressly sent them for entering his territory without having had the permission to do so. These new arrivals, who were kill-kine in the extreme, rode in on the ex-

hausted party, those who attempted to resist, and drove the rest of them; while a detachment pushed forward and took possession of the wells, on which the only remaining hope of temporary relief, was founded. The calamities of the fugitives seemed now drawing to a close, but whether the Rajpoots had originally no intention of destroying them, or relented afterwards, being moved by their sufferings, is uncertain. However, just when all hearts among the captives expected instant death, the Rajah's son advanced with a white flag, and after severely reproaching them for the acts they had committed against the dignity of his father, supplied them with water for their immediate relief, and allowed them to proceed without further molestation. The remainder of the journey was one of severe trial, sufficient to test the strongest nerves, as several marches yet remained to be accomplished through the natural horrors of the desert; the torment of thirst was suffered by all, while many succumbed and died miserably. Humayun with seven mounted companions pushed forward at their best speed and at length reached Amercot, from whence aid was sent to the sufferers, and they were enabled to reach the same place.

At Amercot he at last found a friend. Rana Persad, the chief, not only received him, but treated him hospitably and respectfully, and offered to assist him if he was disposed to make another attempt to gain an establishment in Sindh. It was at this period of deepest sorrow and depression for his parents, that Akber was born. His mother was far advanced in her pregnancy during the march to Amercot, and it was with the utmost difficulty that she was conveyed through the desert. One can imagine what her sufferings must have been when strong men broke down under the trials. Humayun had marched for Sindh the day before the birth of Akber, and the news of the event reached him on the road. He should have, according to usage, given presents to his friends on such an occasion, but he was so destitute, that he had nothing but a pod of musk; this he broke up and distributed among his friends and adherents, with a wish that his son's fame might resemble the odour of that perfume, and be diffused throughout the world. How almost prophetic this utterance proved! for Akber raised the Indian Empire to a high position, and its lustre at that period was great.

JAMES H. LINTON.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high reputation among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, take an Englishman may find them fairly. If they had been unfaithful to the story of the Mutiny had been vastly different; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and

subjects which he intends to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, I shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unlooses the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoon" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great grief. He is not, however, paraded. He is not.

These are not the worst of the an, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a story, whose name is Tom, and who was to bark, with a noble independence, some very dignified Sahibs. Our is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and as farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very good one, and one that will draw the attention of the great heart of humanity to the words are read. Could any other than the testimony to the two gentlemen, ending with the "Ben, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah dog. The passage is, the author, and of the great merciful and that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with the same ideas, the mind of this gifted East is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less and far-reaching.

On the eve of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

Humour of the little sketch is worth I can fancy the author laughing to dismay; for he can laugh well at himself. I shall give you one more passage; and I give the spirit of the man who dares to return to his home in Bengal, adieu, for a time at last, to Independent, where he had been located for years. He received the Mahanirvana to return home; but still he is away. [Extract.]

I think, a sound lesson in this passage of the immense value of urbanity in the relations of rulers and subjects. There is a great deal in that sentence "I serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even the most brilliant champagne pall in the end. But one art that never fails—the art of courtesy; of that courtesy which, being not affected by any whim or fancy of the person who possesses it, is any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word is thrown—generous—ever is thrown—on them at times with imputations at home, and I feel that as a rule by far the true good manners, and often more than mere manners. May the sacred Name they use all, guide them to a noble end, and may they yet have known and by them, bless

IS ROUTLEDGE.

1st Mar. 1888.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1888.

} No. 326

CONTEMPORARY LYRICS.

SCIENCE AND FAITH.

FROM THE BISHOP OF DERRY'S "NEW ATLANTIS."

"Patience! God's House of Light shall yet be built,
In years unthought of, to some unknown song,
And from the fanes of Science shall her guilt
Pass like a cloud. How long, O Lord, how long?"

When Faith shall grow a man, and Thought a child,
And that in us which thinks with that which feels
Shall everlastingly be reconciled,
And that which questioneth with that which kneels.

But for the New Atlantis—for the Church
Where faith and knowledge heart-united dwell—
I think it lies far-off beyond our search,
Enfolded by the Hills Delectable."

RESPICE FINEM!

I.

"Thou liest, Hope," 'tis said, when unfulfilled
Thy promises on life's worn footpaths rest;
When roofless stands the temple thou didst build;
But what say they who know and love thee best?
"Though the rich light which filled the morning skies
Increase and fade into the depths of night,
We sin if we believe the radiance dies,
When, with slow steps, it leaves our common sight:
Once to have seen is surely still to see!
So when we speak of early Hope as dead,
We take our hold of words but carelessly,
Forgetful that on Hope the Spirit fed,
And gained—in losing even the truth to be—
The present truth of self-maturity!"

II.

Ah! still the heart sighs on?—Then seek again
Some larger light 'mid drifting clouds of gloom;
For surely something, say you, must remain
After Hope's death, some flowers grace her tomb!
Nay—tenderly—for she may not be dead,
But sleeping, charmed, until your life kisses hers
Into the living Beauty which you fled
To place your love beside:—She ministers
Not as we do even to our dearest guest;
For banquet as we may, hunger is still
A few hours distant only,—but her best
Comes last, and ends all hunger!—Wherefore fill
Thy heart with sorrow? *Somewhere*, it must be
Thy pure, high Hopes touch God's Desires for thee!

JOHN HOGGEN.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WHAT a lot is this of writers and speakers! Sheridan was taken to task for having had the temerity to speak of the great History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire as the "luminous" pages of Gibbon, when the great orator had referred, as he said, to the voluminous historian. To compare great things with small, we have been charged with strong language for having called a vagabond of the press—vomitted out of Bombay to Hyderabad, thence to Upper India, and from Oudh thrown out on Bengal—a badmash. What a pity that we should have missed, by a slip of the pen or of the composing digits, the true word for the world, the flesh, and the Devil, as well as the occasion—"bad mashe." There can be little mistake now.

LAST, not least, historic and holy Oodeypore brings up the rear of the Native Chiefs, in the demonstration of loyalty to the Paramount Power and determination for the preservation of the Empire, with the offer of the services of his troops and a donation of six lacs.

TIBETANS attacked Gnatong in force on the morning of May 23, soon after day-light. Their force is estimated at 1500. They never got within three hundred yards of the stockade, and by ten o'clock were in full retreat over the Jacola. Our loss was three killed and seven wounded. Tibetan loss estimated at fifty. The affair was principally one of skirmishes.

LATER intelligence of that morning's engagement at Gnatong show that the Tibetans were two to three thousand strong. The action lasted about three hours. The enemy have retreated rapidly over the Jakola Pass on the way to the Jelep. A company of the Derbyshire regiment under Captain Gossett and 200 Pioneers under Colonel Broomhead are pursuing in two different directions.

The three killed on our side are No. 2659 Sergeant Luke Leckington, Derbyshire. No. 1686 Sepoy Kharak Singh and No. 1811 Sepoy Hookum Sing, 32nd Pioneers. The seven wounded are of the Pioneers, three of them severely. The enemy's loss is estimated at 100.

NEWS from Gnatong dated noon the 23rd May is to the effect that the enemy were pursued on the 22nd to the Jakola Pass and for several miles towards Pemberingo. Pursuing parties suffered no loss. The enemy's rout was complete. The roads beyond the Jakola and towards the Pemberingo are strewn with blankets and traces of a hurried flight. Early on the 23rd some 50 or 60 men were seen carrying the wounded. Ten prisoners have been taken, mostly wounded, and many are still in the woods near the camp. Parties are out to capture them.

The number of the enemy killed exceeds what was reported at first and many have been carried away. A large party, including several wounded men, apparently of importance, who had assembled during the action on the Jakola, were scattered by a well directed shell. Two bodies were found at the place.

No signs of the enemy are now visible on this side of the Jelep or Pemberingo Passes.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

The Pioneers expended 12 rounds per man, the Derbyshire 15 rounds and the guns fired 31 rounds.

A TELEGRAM from Rangoon of date the 22nd May gives news, which however needs confirmation, of a raid by 500 Kachins on Momeik, a Shan State, not under British administration. There is no important news of the Chins' raids in the Upper Chindwin.

In the Minbu district, 116 dacoits including 3 leaders surrendered and 22 were captured. A large gang, which is believed to be that of Ootiya Ottama's lieutenant, trying to escape from Minbu Southwards, was encountered in the Thayetmyo district of Lower Burma when 18 of them were killed and many wounded.

A TELEGRAM from Rangoon of May 25 says that the Deputy Commissioner of Minbu has reported the surrender of 640 dacoits in that district.

THE following is a translation of a Burmese letter from Hla Dway Siado and Pakhan Siado, Buddhist Chief Priests of Mandalay, residing at the "Maha Abya Ya Ma Tini," to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Greeting.—His Excellency will remember having, before he left Burma for Bengal in February 1887, had an interview with the Priests in the Palace at Mandalay, during the course of which the conversation was directed to the affairs of the country.

At this interview the opportunity was taken of explaining to His Excellency that the disturbed state of the districts in Burma had alienated the people from the spiritual influence of the Priests, but that every effort would be made by the Priesthood to better the condition of the people and restore the country to its original tranquility.

Since then the Chief Priests have been assiduously engaged in the fulfilment of this end, and they lately resolved that each should apportion to himself the mission of visiting the districts along either bank of the Irrawaddy. However little may have been done so far, they feel sure that the desired results will eventually be achieved. Letters are being sent by them to all the members of the Priesthood, who in their turn will publish the contents to the people and abjure them with the aid of spiritual benediction to live peacefully in their own homes as becomes all good citizens, so that their own condition and that of the country may be ameliorated.

The head Priests have already visited a number of the disturbed districts and have sent letters to the remainder intimating their impending visits and instructing the people to be peaceful.

The Priests wish to assure His Excellency that the work of assisting in the salvation of the country and its people is being undertaken most heartily and they feel sanguine that the country will be resuscitated into a peaceful kingdom, in the prosperity of which all will gladly co-operate.

This letter is sent as a token of remembrance of His Excellency, and if a message is sent to the Priests in acknowledgment, its receipt will be hailed with gladness by the Priests and all inhabitants, and blessings will ever lastingly be invoked for His Excellency.

THE Salvation Army which has extended its operations throughout the globe, has just been declared by a jury at Quebec in Canada to be a public nuisance.

ON the 1st May a statue of Sir Bartle Frere was placed in the gardens of the Victoria Embankment, London, not far from the statue of General Outram. The Prince of Wales will unveil it on an early date.

THE Directors of the Bank of Bombay have obtained sanction of Government to open a branch at Akola, in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

MR. H. E. M. JAMES, Deputy Director-General of the Post Office of India, having been appointed a Senior Collector in the Bombay Presidency, Mr. H. M. Kisch is promoted from the 2nd to the 1st grade of Postmaster-General, Mr. P. Sheridan becomes Deputy Director-General of the Post Office of India and Mr. G. J. Hynes, the First Assistant Director-General.

THE latest Gallic discovery is a toad weighing 2 qrs. 10 lbs and measuring nearly 3 ft. round the body, its sound resembling the bark of a dog.

It was found at Juillac, in the Department of the Corrèze, and sold for £70. A thousand Rupees for a frog! That must be the identical toad of Shakespeare that wears a jewel in its head.

MAJOR-GENERAL E. Mitchell, R. E., Retired List, was convicted and fined for travelling several times in the Metropolitan Railway in the first class with third class tickets. The War Secretary, without going to the extreme length of depriving the retired military of his retired pay, has deprived him of the honorary rank of Major-General.

BIKANIR is to be relieved of Major Talbot. Mr. C. S. Bayley, C. S., Assistant Commissioner, Ajmere, succeeds the military man as Resident. Captain Herbert, Assistant Commissioner at Merwara, takes Mr. Bayley's place and is himself succeeded in Merwara by Captain Penrose from Hyderabad.

Mr. Tighe, who has before acted as Assistant Superintendent for Operations in suppression of Thagi and Dacoity in Hyderabad, gets Captain Penrose's vacancy.

BABUS Umesh Chandra Batabyal and Kedar Nath Roy have been admitted to the Statutory Civil Service as Assistant Magistrates and Collectors to the Lower Provinces.

THE Hon'ble H. Beverley, one of the Judges of the High Court, has been granted privilege leave for one month from the 10th August next. It is virtually a leave for 3 months, for the Long Vacation commences as soon as the leave expires.

THE railway from the Caspian to Samarcand was opened on the 26th May last with elaborate ceremonies and rejoicings.

THE Currency Commission have made their report. It is believed they recommend a bimetallic currency on the basis of a fixed valuation between gold and silver.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 26th May 1888, amounted to £2,562,600.

THE will of the late Sir Henry Sumner Maine, K. C. S. I., and Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, who died on the 2nd February, in his 66th year, has been proved and probate granted to the executors the Hon. Justice Sir James Charles Mathew Frederick Pollock and Mr. Frederick Harrison. The realty consists of the testator's leasehold house in Corn-wall-gardens. Besides its stabling, furniture and effects, horses and carriages, and the library, as also the copyright of his works and his gold medals and other heirlooms, the remaining personalty has been declared to a penny at £46,715, 6s. 7d., and is charged with two annuities. The house and furniture, horses and carriages, with 200 of the books and three gold medals, with an annuity of £1,200 are bequeathed to the widow, an annuity of £200 to his son C. S. Maine. The remainder of the income is also to go to Lady Maine, on whose death two-thirds of the capital will go to the said C. S. Maine and the remainder to another son Henry Hallam Maine. The copyrights are not to be sold.

THE Chinese Ambassador in London has complained to the British Foreign Office, of Chinese emigrants to Australia being subject to a poll tax of £10, an impost from which the subjects of other Powers are exempt. The Chinese Government hopes that her Majesty's Government will institute an inquiry into this invidious impost and determine how far it is compatible with the existence and growth of friendly relations between Great Britain and China.

THE Hunza and Nagar feudatories of Cashmere, in the bleak northern parts of the kingdom, have lately given much trouble to the Durbar. In consequence, troops were despatched, and these operated with such prompt energy that the chiefs have been brought back to a sense of their duty. Already, the Raja of Nagar has sent a representative to the Maharaja's commanding officer at Gilgit, to offer submission and beg for mercy. It is believed there will be no farther need of bloodshed.

A STARTLING discovery was announced, on the 30th April, of a deficit of 100,000 fr. in the Greek Treasury. Another deficit of 240,000 fr. in the Treasury accounts for the Province of Attica has been found, in consequence, whereof arrests are being made.

THE following official notification appears at Hyderabad :—

"On account of the suspension of the Syed Abdul Huq, Sirdar Diler-ul-Mulk, it is necessary to appoint on behalf of Government an official Director in his place on the Board of both the Railway Company and the Mining Company. It is, therefore, notified that with concurrence of the Resident, Nawab Fateh Nawaz Jung Bahadur has been appointed to this office temporarily or until further orders."

Nawab Fateh Nawaz is now acting as Chief Justice, with which office his appointment as Government Director on joint stock companies does not well consist. But in Hyderabad there is no notion of consistency of any kind, either among the natives or the British.

SRINAGAR 23rd.—Only a slight decrease of cholera in Srinagar during last 3 days. The disease is prevalent throughout the valley. The new cart road from Uri towards Murree is reported to be free.

SRINAGAR, May, 28.—There is a slight increase of cholera in comparison with the preceding two days. 162 fresh cases and 83 deaths have been reported in Srinagar in the last 24 hours.

MR. R. E. Genge, Surgeon, of Mooltan, [while encamped in the Wurdhwan valley in Cashmere, was, with his whole party of six natives, crushed under an avalanche which fell on the 15th. One coolie only providentially escaped, having gone to a neighbouring village for provisions. Mr. Genge's body has been recovered and brought for burial to Srinagar.

THE Commissioner of the Berars, Mr. Leslie Saunders, died in the Ellichpore District of his jurisdiction, on the 22nd, from a fall from his horse—the third fatal riding case and the fourth death by accident, in his family in India, a young Saunders having been poisoned to death by inadvertence. Son of Mr. Charles Saunders, formerly Resident of Hyderabad, Leslie entered the Civil Service in 1858 and was a Panjab Civilian, till transferred to the diplomatic branch he became successively Commissioner of Ajmere and Commissioner of Berar.

AYUB KHAN was to have left Rawalpindi for Murree on the 25th ult. Captain Evans Gordon goes with the Sardar.—Ayub Khan's stipend has been fixed at Rs. 5,000 a month for himself and his followers. He is to submit a list of his allotments to them.

MR. JOHN BRIGHT is suffering from congestion of the lungs. It is satisfactory to know that there has been a decided improvement in his condition.

HEALTH is failing Sir Barnes Peacock. We fear he has been overworking himself as stipendiary member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on £5,000 *per annum*.

MR. D. M. BARBOUR is expected to join his office of Financial Member of the Supreme Council in November, when Mr. Westland will take furlough.

ORDER has been passed to extend the diocese of Rangoon to Upper Burma.

THE Contagious Diseases' Act is to be suspended pending final orders for its suppression—according to the *Indian Witness*. Orders have already been issued not to work the Act.

HEAVY rains and hailstorms have considerably damaged the crops throughout the United States.

DURING the month of May 1888, ten thousand two hundred and seventy one persons visited the Indian Museum. Of Native there were

Holloway's Pills.—Any dyspeptic sufferer aware of the purifying, regulating, and gently aperient powers of these Pills, should permit no one to cloud his judgment or to warp his course. With a box of Holloway's Pills, and attention to its accompanying "Directions," he may feel thoroughly satisfied that he can safely and effectually release himself from his miseries without impairing his appetite or weakening his digestion. This most excellent medicine acts as a nerve and bodily tonic by aiding nutrition, and banishes a thousand annoying forms of nervous complaints. An occasional resort to Holloway's remedy will prove highly salutary to all persons, whether well or ill, whose digestion is slow or imperfect, a condition usually evidenced by weariness, languor, listlessness, and despondency.

8,222 males and 1,821 females and of Europeans 162 males and 66 females. The daily average number of visitors for the 11 days on which the Museum was open to the general public was 933. From the 1st to 15th May the galleries were closed for the annual cleaning.

'NEWS AND COMMENTS.

EVIDENTLY, the Government does not expect an early termination of the Thibetan business. For, orders have issued for taking the telegraph on to Gnatong, while the Commissariat Department has been directed to mass in Colonel Graham's camp provisions for the entire Sikkim Field-Force to last till the 30th June, and for the 32nd Pioneers and 250 mules till the end of October.

THE Government of India is pursuing its policy of substantial conciliation of the Native Princes. The fort of Gwalior was returned, before his death, to Maharaja Jeeaji Rao Scindhia who had pined for it. And now Bangalore fort is to be made over to the Mysore Durbar. As a sort of compensation, the civil and military station of Bangalore is to be extended so as to include the residency house and grounds. The arsenal has been removed to Agram and all the British troops have been withdrawn.

THE Government of India invites a four per cent loan of Rs. 3,00,00,000. Tenders must be in sums of Rs. 500 or multiples thereof, and will be opened publicly by the Comptroller-General at the Treasury Buildings, Calcutta, on Tuesday, the 3rd July next. The Budget provides for a loan of 3 millions sterling. The late heavy drain from the brisk banking of the Secretary of State, has possibly precipitated the descent to the market, as it has unusually lowered the exchange. The withdrawal of 3 crores from India at such a time of abnormal depreciation of silver, will be a sore calamity to the commerce of the country.

REFUGES from the Mahdist head-quarters report the Mahdi's assassination by his lieutenant, who has assumed power. A bumptious proclamation, purporting to come from the Mahdi, in which all believers are called upon to make common cause with the dervishes, and which claims for the latter the accomplishment of the conquest of Abyssinia and of the forcible dispersion of the foreigners, has certainly issued. It has created a great effect in Upper Egypt, where it has been freely circulated.

THE "Exodus" to the Hills has narrowly escaped a practical condemnation and the responsibility of a tragic mischance. Meher Ali was to have been executed yesterday. Although a petition had gone up to the Lieutenant-Governor from many of the respectable members of the community, for sparing the man's life, it was feared that the representation would not reach the head of the Government in time, who was engaged in the exciting recreation and arduous business combined of climbing the heights of the Himalayas. If Meher Ali had, in consequence, undergone the extreme penalty, he would not have been the first sacrifice of a prisoner within recent years under the Bengal Cucumlocution Office. Luckily, there has been no such miscarriage. The petition has reached its destination. Sir Steuart Bayley has taken time to consider the representation in the convict's favor, and has postponed the dread day for a week.

THE several Members of the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, have been authorized by the Governor-General in Council, under Sec. 5, Regulation III of 1822, to exercise generally, throughout the territories subject to their control, all the duties, powers, and authority which are vested in the Board collectively in respect of the departments detailed below :—

"The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds, C.S.I., will exercise the aforesaid powers in the Department of Land Revenue. This includes revenue, survey and settlement, land registration, land improvements, the sale or lease of waste land and Government estates, the management of Wards' and attached estates, the collection of cesses, the realization of arrears of revenue, and the recovery of public demands, rent suits, embankments, pensions, the examination, enrolment, &c., of revenue agents, putni sales, and the supply of provisions for troops.

Mr. F. B. Peacock will exercise the aforesaid powers in the Departments of Miscellaneous Revenue. These include excise, assessed taxes, salt, opium, customs, stamps and stationery, tolls and canals, the partition of estates, and the acquisition of land for public purposes.

During the absence on leave of Mr. Peacock, Mr. F. M. Halliday, Officiating Member of the Board of Revenue, will exercise the powers with which Mr. Peacock is vested."

This announcement does not cover the illegality of the past. The irregularity was prominently brought to notice in connection with the Burdwan adoption. Hence the late correction and authority to perpetuate the practice of divided work and joint order. But supposing some of the former proceedings of the Board ever came to be questioned in a court of justice, what then?

The perfunctory way in which the Board performs its high functions, is a type of Indian official laxity. But it has always been to us a wonder how that body was permitted to override the clear injunction of the law in deference to the convenience of the Members. Not only is the Government to blame in this, but the bar must also share the obloquy of not having yet attacked such a scandal. We badly want a few Woodroffes. Any Zemindar or other party, suffering from the action of the Board, might disregard its order, and bring the question before the High Court whether a fraction was to be taken for the whole. Even now, when the correction at last comes, it is not adequate. The present Notification is a half measure. Nothing short of an Act of Indemnity for the past and of authority for the future, will meet the necessities of the case.

ON a reference from the Sub-Judge Rai Bahadoor Baroda Prosad Shome, in the Small Cause Court case No. 150 of 1888, the High Court, Messrs. Justices Norris and Macpherson, have held that in a case by the landlord for damages for trees cut by the tenant without the landlord's consent, section 23 of the Bengal Tenancy Act does not apply. The tenant must prove any custom that he may rely upon in his defence. The landlord is absolved from the *onus* of proving the custom prohibiting the right by occupancy tenants to cut down trees at their own will.

THE Government of India, we are glad to announce, have once more pressed upon the India office the abandonment of the prohibitive duty levied in England on Indian silver goods. The practical hardship, no less than the theoretical injustice of the impost, has been repeatedly exposed within the last several years in both countries. Yet Christian England, the supporter of costly missions to the ends of the earth to convey the gospel of Righteousness and Peace and Good Will, would not do a simple act of fair play. It was against her grain. For England, though Christian, is commercial before everything—peddling to the last degree; except on the rare occasions on which her deeper moral consciousness is stirred, when she is capable of extraordinary sacrifices. As a rule, she does not forget that she is the leading shopkeeper of the world, and is determined to maintain her monopoly of the markets of the world. She cannot be persuaded to be just even to her own dependencies—Ireland herself, although one of the members of the political firm going under the name and style of the United Kingdom, being no exception. India has had always reason to lament this selfish greed. One after another, all her manufactures have been swallowed up. It is in this unworthy spirit that the heavy duty was imposed and is maintained in England on shipments of Indian silver work to English ports.

SIND is naturally much exercised by the proposed transfer of the province from the Bombay Government to the Lieutenant-Government of the Punjab. Official Bombay is simply indignant at the call to be stripped of this appanage. The transfer, however, is not to be effected so early as the public was led to expect. The Government of India is awaiting the despatch of the Bombay Government before finally reporting on the subject to the India Office. There is ample time, therefore, for argument in the press and agitation by public meetings, and it is being utilised in that direction. It will tax all the powers of our Western politicians to maintain the *status quo* against the *prima facie* reasonableness of the proposal. One fact, as the hard-headed Hindu jurists of old say, is worth a hundred texts or arguments. Nature is against the pretension of Bombay to have and hold hereafter what she has hitherto possessed. Physically, Sind's affinities are distinctly Punjabi and by no means Bombayan, and there are no overwhelming

reasons of policy to plead for the continuance of the present arrangement. A glance at the map shows at once that Sind is part of the Punjab and that it is not even near Bombay. Between British Bombay and Sind, there is not only a considerable tract of Native India broken into numberless states, great and small, but also many pieces of water, salt and brackish.

It is satisfactory to find that the natural head of the great Burdwan family is in the hands of good advisers. The Dowager Maharani is just reported to have offered the munificent donation of Rs. 5,000, towards the establishment of a school in Burdwan for European and Native girls, to be called Lady Bayley's Free Girls' School, and she proposes to found two scholarships for Sanskrit students, either at Nuddea or any other seat of Oriental learning.

AND now from the sublime to the ridiculous! The Durbarees fit of the usurper, by instinct led, alarmed at the credit the persecuted old lady was acquiring by her righteous use of wealth, put their wits together and hit upon their plan of Campaign for storming public opinion and securing the good graces of the country at large. It is certainly ingenious, and thoroughly characteristic. In the words of the statement furnished to the press,

"A novel institution has been recently established at Kuti Bari in Burdwan, for the purpose of imparting free lessons in the art of elocution to the Native striplings of the place. The institution is attached to the college hostel, and under the patronage of Principal Ram Narain Dutt, B.A., Mr. Benode Lal Burman, A.D.C. to H. H. the Maharajah, and Fakira Rajendra Nath Dutt."

And this is called "Burdwan coming to the front!" A "novel institution" this to be sure, the like of which has not yet seen the day at the Presidency. Genius is nothing if not original, and clever as the fortunate Lala's creatures were—by half—they have at length been materially strengthened by the accession of unmistakable Genius in the person of the last-named Fakira. What next? and next? They seem to be on the eve of a great Revolution in Burdwan. That Honorable man the Lala has already, by the touch of his magic wand, altered the law of inheritance among his tribe. Government having succumbed to him, the word has been passed or the hint taken, and already a new school of Hindu Law, unknown to the Sastras—the Rishis or the commentators—has been added in the legal treatises now appearing. A mock Parliament would fitly crown the triumph. Perhaps Burdwan might be content with a National Congress all to itself. So, we suppose, the lads—we beg pardon, the striplings—of Rar are to be drilled into declaimators between a couple of Dutt Baboos with a Mr. Burman in the middle into the bargain. Our Surrender Not the Orator and his coadjutor the "mute inglorious" No-render had better look to their laurels. This drilling business—the preparation of the unfortunate boyhood of Bengal for politics before time and needless agitation—is their own vocation. Are they prepared to surrender so fruitful an occupation to these interlopers and outer Barbarians of Burdwan? They have already accomplished much of their object. A certain class of our boys now lisp in oratory, because the platitudes and mixed metaphors come. Can they suffer to see the glory snatched away by others?

We do not know the credentials of these new-comers for the rôle they have assumed. Mr. Benode Lal is, we believe, the same who was the electioneering agent at Calcutta of the Burdwan party interested in forcing on the adoption of the boy who is now Maharaja. He certainly deserved their thanks for his great and arduous exertions for creating public opinion in favor of the irreligious adoption, and has apparently been rewarded with the post of A.-D.-C. to the Maharaja—fit *Atalik* for such a prince. But who is this Fakira? Perhaps, Mr. Lambert might be able to tell.

THE appointment of a Political Officer for the Affairs of the late King of Oudh comes, as we announced last week, to an end with the departure on leave of Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Prideaux. The Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs undertakes the payment of Oudh and Mysore pensions at Alipore, and the administration of the late King's estates has been entrusted to the Government Solicitor, who will be nominated Agent of the Governor-General for that purpose—to dispose of the immoveable property advertised for sale.

his deepest abhorrence. As an instance of His Holiness' strict adherence to old ways and manners, I may relate a case that took place a few years back. It must be borne in mind that the lord of Ouni Ati has some 7 or 8 hundred *bhakats* (all celibates) who serve him and his guardian deity in different menial offices. The huts of these doomed wretches are built so close to each other as to leave no opening for smoke to go out or light and air to go in. The result is that in the morning and evening, when fires are made in these huts for cooking purposes, none but *bhakat* can venture into them; one unused to it is pretty sure to be blinded and suffocated. Accordingly a gentleman had the humanity to suggest to His Holiness a more convenient arrangement of the houses. Instead of thankfully receiving the suggestion, he rejected it with disdain, and looked down upon the gentleman as a heretic. Nor is this a solitary instance. How many projects of public welfare has he not rejected on this stupid ground! His Holiness would do nothing that his fathers had not done. Is it not strange, therefore, that such a man should have lent himself to the imitation of a Christian custom derived from the old Hebrews? A man that condemned as improper and heretical a proposition for an altered construction of his out-offices, felt no scruples to permit the perpetration of a jubilee. Surely, His Holiness's predecessors and forefathers had never held a jubilee, although many of them sat on the guddee for a much longer period.

S. BORAH.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—“Fools are my theme and satire my song,” but, as rhyming is not in my beat, I will content myself with prose.

At a recent meeting, Sir Goose (over whose silly head forty-five tropical summers have passed) in consideration of his age was voted to the chair.

The Spaniel—a genuine Hispaniola breed—was engaged to read a paper on the “Structure and habits of boobies.” The gentle breeze, through the windows, lulled Sir Goose into somnolence, the beasts fell talking with each other in a low suppressed growl.

But the Spaniel, with canine assiduity and patience, continued reading. The essay terminated and they continued,

“Clap, clap, all together, clap, clap away,

For this is the way they exercise to have a little play.”

The applause was unmerited and the Joint Secretary of the Club did not fail to perceive that the Spaniel had played a dirty trick and had nearly succeeded in hoodwinking his human auditors by reading to them an essay copied “verbatim et literatim” from the lucubrations of a Scottish author. He accordingly stands up, and emphatically condemns the practice. The beasts, horror struck, gaze at each other. The lecturer's face emulates the red glare of the lamp burning on the table.

The Jackdaw, decked in all the pride and splendour of fashion, and cying the audience through the translucent rays of a pair of massive steel spectacles, having a sympathy in common with the zoological race, screeches out in defence, “Assuming that he has copied, what harm can there be in it?” A young man, who was announced in the “notice” as a visitor, and who had enjoyed the privilege of speaking in the Club on previous occasions, felt justified in saying, “But copying word for word from a book amounts to plagiarism, and as such is reprehensible.” Sir Goose, who is linked to the Spaniel by an official tie, was exceedingly put out of countenance at the disclosure of this literary larceny, and being unable to restrain his choler any longer, vociferously cackled out with extended beaks “Who are you, young man? Learn to respect your seniors. You are not a member of the Club, and had therefore no business to speak. Hold your peace.” In plain English, he tried to hector the young man down. Young man? What the deuce does Sir Goose mean by that? What a pity there was no prompter to whisper in Sir Goose's ears the following stanzas:—

“We live in deeds, not years, in thoughts, not breaths,
In feeling, not in figures on a dial.

We should count time by heart throbs. He most lives
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.”

The quadrupeds, encouraged by their leader, set up an infernally tremendous howl, looking daggers at the Secretary. The bipeds commenced screeching, chirping, hooting, quacking and all other words that the vocabulary of ornithology can supply.

An old Jackanapes, sitting on the right hand of Sir Goose, making grimaces and antic gestures, and exposing from time to time a set of dirty teeth, gibbered out:—“No, no, we ought not to discourage these things, we must encourage them.” Encourage what? Plagiarism, to be sure. Bravo! Sir Ape, a remark worthy of you. He will be a valuable acquisition to the Alipore garden, though I would like much to tame such a droll creature, and fatten him on

the delicious plantain. But to continue. The Spaniel had evidently been engaged so long, without heeding the remarks of his critics, in composing the following sentence, which he thus expressed in the tone of an intellectual dog:—“This gentleman too, in his essay on the ‘Indian Mutiny’ has copied from Mocolay.” A fearful anachronism, thought I. Like the divinity student in Holme's Professor of the Breakfast Table, a gentleman started up a laugh, but reined it back with a pull, as one throws a horse on his haunches.

At this juncture, another gentleman rose with the laudable object of putting an end to the dispute, and, by an effective speech, succeeded in tranquilizing the furious animals. Then followed the Joint Secretary's speech, at the conclusion of which the meeting dispersed.

A. M. P.

29th May 1888.

✍ We publish this letter as a creditable performance for so young a writer, but he must try his hand on subjects of general interest. There is too much striving after literary effect visible in most of our young correspondents. Let them cultivate matter, and smartness will come of itself. There is the making of writers in them.—ED. R. & R.

LORD DUFFERIN IN THE CALCUTTA SLUMS.

Commenting upon the *Englishman's* account of the Viceroy's inspection of the Calcutta slums, the *Daily Telegraph*, in a leading article, says:—

Lord Dufferin continues by a hundred bright, sensible, or courageous deeds and speeches, to make everybody sorry that he is shortly to surrender the Viceroyalty which he has administered so well. One of the last acts of his cold-season sojourn in Calcutta was to take a long and, from the sanitary and olfactory point of view, a terrible morning walk in the slums of the capital of India. Calcutta has been called a “City of Palaces,” and such it is, perhaps, viewed from Garden Reach or Pal Ghat. Moored in that part of the Hooghly, or walking or driving near Fort William, the visitor or resident sees across the broad expanse of the maidan a sweep of stately buildings extending from the Cathedral to Government House. Their white or saffron hue contrasts agreeably with the green turf and the thick clumps of tamarind or palm trees; while the domes of the Viceregal Palace, with the splendid foliage of the Eden Gardens, nobly fill the perspective, and incline one to believe that Calcutta is as handsome as she looks. But whoever ventures seriously to explore the vast native city will be quickly undeceived; the Indian metropolis is far more a city of slums than of palaces, and cannot “hold a candle,” as regards its indigenous quarters, to Bombay. Very few Europeans, however, know much about the worst parts, which are often the most characteristic, of Calcutta. Even the Viceroy had never seen them until the other day, when the impulse suddenly seized him to make a resolute exploration of the more crowded and insanitary quarters of his capital.

He ought, perhaps, to have started, after the fashion of the Caliph Haroun-al-Raschid, at night, with Sir Mackenzie Wallace disguised as a Babu, Lord William Bercsford as Rissaldar, and Lord Dufferin himself dissembling in the garments of an up-country merchant. The manner of this expedition, however, was modern, like its kindly and conscientious inspiration, and the Viceroy started for his “slumming” in a carriage accompanied by the Chairman of the Municipality, the Engineer, the Health Officer, and a Private Secretary. Northern, or native, Calcutta has some good thoroughfares, it must be confessed, such as Cornwallis-street and the Circular Road; but being upon real business bent, Lord Dufferin soon had to quit his carriage and plunge on foot into Baranasee Ghose's Street and its adjacent purlieus. He wound his way along that snaky causeway; he inspected Chassadhobaparah, where wayfarers must walk in single file through a labyrinth of dark and stuffy gutters; he plunged into the awful bastis and cowsheds, the mat-huts and miserable godowns, beyond Dhurrumtollah and Moydapaty lanes. He gallantly treaded the unspeakable abominations of Burra Bazaar; visited a gowalla's establishment knee deep in filth; and even traversed—no doubt with handkerchief to nose—the yards and apartments of a “basti” in Jorabagan, which is mentioned as remarkable for its bad name. Here, says the *Englishman*, “the Viceroy saw for himself the appalling filthiness characteristic of a locality where buildings have been constructed without the least regard to light, ventilation, means of access, or sanitary requirements of any description.” And it continues very justly: “The community at large, and the native portion of it especially, have much cause for gratitude to the Earl of Dufferin for having undertaken such an inspection. He is, we believe, the first Governor-General who has seen for himself some of the plague-spots of our City of Palaces. He must have noted how strongly their condition contrasted with the well-kept wide streets of the southern portion of the town, and with the large gardens, acting as air spaces, attached to the houses in the European quarters.”

Truly, if some Western enthusiasts for sanitation could have accompanied the Viceroy in that morning walk they would have thought the East end of London, in comparison, a paradisiac of hygienic science. The slums of Calcutta are about the most unlovely specimens conceivable of urban life. They are not even interesting, as is generally the case with the back regions of an

Indian town or city, except perhaps, for the population, which, swarming about the narrow, hot streets and lanes like human ants, lends a certain colour and animation to the dingiest nook. Built on the dead flat of the Ganges alluvium, there is no natural drainage; a few feet below the surface all is swamp and squashy mud: paving is almost unknown, except in the chief thoroughfares; and the people are sublimely ignorant of the common rules of health, and too conservative to take up with change. True it is that much has been lately done for the native quarters of Calcutta: the drainage and water supply have been looked after, and open oases cleared in wildernesses of foul and crowded regions. This work, however, has fallen back again into the hands of a native Municipality, who have not the energy or the enthusiasm for sanitation of the West; and the Calcutta which lies out of sight of the tourist or temporary resident is consequently almost as bad a hotbed of disease as in the days when cholera was regularly bred there, and when boats loaded with frightful refuse used daily to discharge their contents into Garden Reach, amid hundreds of corpses floating down the river. Now-a-days, sailors are not poisoned by the contaminated stream; nor have captains to set a hand on watch to clear their cables of dead Hindoos drifting along the sacred stream. Yet behind the broader causeways, where handsome temples and gaily painted commodious residences are to be seen, there are still these hideous, squalid narrow lanes, where an odour reigns supreme, with rancid ghee for its basis, and all the seventy smells of Cologne as mere collateral flavours, of a compost indescribable, omnipresent, overwhelming. Tanks green with glistening confervæ, growing almost visibly under the fierce tropical light, serve at once for drinking, bathing, and washing purpose to all the squalid crowded habitations around. The musk-rats and bandicoots run in and out of the rotting foundations; mosquitoes, centipedes, and the smaller vermin teem in the hot atmosphere; and yet, close to such tenements, and in the heart of the ugliest slum, one will find dwellings of the rich luxuriously fitted within, and tenanted by people of high culture and refined life. That Calcutta is not a healthy city goes without saying; it never can be so under present circumstances, and the mortality, which is abnormally high, would be much higher still but for the fact that the citizens are largely acclimatised to evil odours and foul water and air, and also that Nature, by her winged and creeping ministers, does a great deal for man. Myriads of crows, vultures, kites, and storks fill the air, discharging gladly and constantly the duties of scavengers; while the earth, the walls, the roofs, the bamboos, the mats, the very dust are full of minute indefatigable creatures perpetually carrying off and devouring the dirt in the wrong place which would otherwise make a continuous lazaret-house of Calcutta.

Yet there was one spot visited on this occasion by the Viceroy, which might teach a lesson in sanitation to the best-managed city of the West. "At Bolorum Dey's," says the report, "where the carriages were waiting, the Viceroy got in and was driven rapidly up Chitpur Road, and through Nimtollah Street to the Nimtollah Burning Ghat. The body of a young woman who had died that morning of cholera, was being cremated. His Excellency stayed

a short time at the burning ghat, asking several questions, and showing much interest in the ceremony." That is, indeed, a remarkable and suggestive place. A low-fronted building, something like one of our Underground Railway stations, rises by the river, upon which its interior looks through a row of light arches. On the floor, which is of earth, are noticed many black patches covered with grey ash. Beyond through the arches runs the busy Hooghly, blazing with sunshine, covered with ships, flags, sails, and native crafts. Looking citywards in the early morning, you will soon perceive more than one funeral party approaching the Nimtollah. They bear dead bodies upon a charpoy or native headstead; a relative or two and a Brahman, it may be, following. There is no fuss, no loud demonstration of grief, the charpoy is set down inside the building, the white *chudder* is turned aside. Perhaps it is an old man well quit of this troublesome existence, perhaps it is a pretty Hindu girl, her black hair still lustrous, her comely mouth closed with death's secret, and upon her forehead, pale and cold, the bright vermilion *tilaka* newly impressed. The attendant, having seen to the registration, supplies about three hundred-weight of wood; a vacant spot is found upon the clay floor, the pyre is skilfully built, the corpse laid upon it, and some wood, reserved for the purpose, disposed above and around. Then the nearest relative or his representative sets fire to the "bed of change." It is soon seen that there is no need of elaborate crematoria, furnaces, or the like, for this quick and beautiful form of obsequies. The purifying flames rise and crackle; the fume drifts out of the arches over the river; the attendants sit in the corners of the building; smoking hookahs or softly chatting; very soon you only remark a smouldering pile of grey ashes which sinks into a surprisingly little layer. Out of this the chief mourner, rakes, with a branch of Sami shrub and Palasa tree, what he can find of the skull-bones and a joint or two. He sprinkles these with scented waters, and with ghee, wraps them in leaves of the Palasa, and places all in a new earthen pot, which is tied up with thread. This will, by and by, be buried in the ground near home, or placed in a temple; and on the "shradh," or commemorative days, the son will offer eight varieties of flowers, food, and fruit, with this prayer, "May the Adorable and Eternal accept from us these offerings! May the dead one be conveyed to pleasing and immortal abodes!" A little milk and water is poured over the spot of incensation, and this simple and cleanly ceremony, which has only cost the family twelve shillings of English money, is at an end, except for certain strange yet affectionate and dutiful observances, which follow during some days after, and are part of the Indian's ritual. It is, indeed, the idea of Hindus that the soul lingers about its old haunts for ten days; and it would be a sad sign of the dead man's future destiny if the crows refused to eat the cooked rice thrown to them on the tenth day. Happily, they never do; a Calcutta crow would pick up the funeral-rice of the Father of Evil himself if he could die and be burned at Nimtollah. Certainly, neither Lord Dufferin, nor any one who has watched the process of cremation in India, can ever again doubt that in celerity, simplicity, economy, and the abolition of all mournful associations, it recommends itself to crowded populations and sanitary reformers.

EMERALD THEATRE

BEADON STREET.

Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.

Saturday—the 2nd June, 1888—

at 9 P. M.

Babu Grish Chunder Ghose's

EXILE OF SITA.

To be preceded by

THE ENCHANTED TREE.

Next day—Sunday—3rd June,

at Candle Light.

MAGIC STATUE

AND

PURNA CHANDRA.

Arrangements as usual.

M. L. SUR, Asst. Manager.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	Rs.
Amount already advertised...	59,802
Nawab Syud Zainool Abideen, Khan Bahadoor ...	75
Prince Mahomed Raheemooddeen ...	25
Prince Mirza Mahomed Jah Ali Bahadoor ...	25
Hajee Mudoo Khan, of Dinapore ...	10
Total ...	59,937

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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very ignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1888.

} No. 327

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Full Bench of five Judges have answered the reference in *Empress vs. Nilmadhub Mitter* in the negative. The question reserved was in these terms—

“whether, having regard to the facts stated by Baboo Kally Nath Mitter, and to the terms of the confession itself, that confession was rendered inadmissible in point of law, by reason of certain of the answers of the prisoner having been given in Bengali but recorded in English.”

It was argued for two days by Mr. Woodroffe on the part of the prisoner and the Advocate-General and the Standing Council on behalf of the Crown, and the Judges discussed it among themselves for another two days and delivered on Thursday their unanimous opinion thus:—

“The only fact which it is necessary to mention beyond that stated by the learned Judge is that the document, the admissibility of which is in question, was put in on Monday as being a document made under the provisions of Section 164, Criminal Procedure Code, and admissible in evidence without proof under the provisions of section 80 of the Evidence Act, and that Baboo Kally Nath Mitter was not called until the following Friday. Several questions have been raised and argued before us as being necessary to the decision of the general question whether the document upon the facts proved at the trial was properly admitted as evidence against the prisoner. They were: first, Does section 164 of the Criminal Procedure Code apply to a statement made by a person in custody to a Magistrate in Calcutta in the course of an investigation made by the police in the town of Calcutta under the circumstances of a criminal committal in Calcutta? Secondly, if it does not, was the document in question properly admitted upon the evidence of Baboo Kally Nath Mitter under the provisions of sections 21 and 26 of the Evidence Act? Thirdly, if section 164 does apply to this case, was the statement of the prisoner recorded in accordance with the provisions of that section coupled with section 364? And fourthly, if it was not so recorded, is the defect cured by section 533 of the same Act? The first question depends on the construction to be placed on section 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code. That section, so far as it is material to the present question, is as follows: ‘In the absence of any specific provision to the contrary, nothing herein contained shall affect the police in the town of Calcutta.’ Section 164 deals with statements made to a Magistrate in the course of an investigation under Chapter XIV of the Act, and the point for consideration is whether the investigation in the course of which the statement in question was made, was an investigation under that Chapter.

The investigation was by the Calcutta Police in the town of Calcutta, and unless there is some specific provision making section 1 applicable to the police in Calcutta, the section does not apply, as the statement was not made in the course of an investigation under the chapter. The chapter is headed ‘Information to the police and their power to investigate.’ It is clear that many sections of the chapter cannot refer to Calcutta, and the only section which must apply to the police in Calcutta is section 155, but we do not think that section is sufficient to amount to a provision that the whole chapter is to apply to the police in Calcutta, or to give them any power to make investigations under it, and it follows that the present case is not in any way affected by section 164 of the Code, and as a necessary consequence by section 364 or section 533. The second question then arises, whether the document in question was properly admitted under the provisions of the Evidence Act. Baboo Kally Nath Mitter was called, and he stated that he questioned the prisoner in English, that the prisoner understands and speaks English, and sometimes answered him in English, sometimes in Bengali; that when the answers were in English he wrote them down, when in Bengali he wrote them in English, and read over what he had written to the prisoner, that the whole document contains the prisoner’s deposition, and the prisoner signed it in his presence. If the contents of the document did not amount to a confession, the document itself would be relevant as an admission under section 21 of the Evidence Act, and though it is a confession, it is relevant and may be proved, unless it is excluded by section 26 of that Act. That section is as follows: ‘No

confession made by any person whilst in the custody of a police officer, unless it be in the immediate presence of a Magistrate, shall be proved as against such person.’ At the time when the prisoner made the statement he was in the custody of the police, but it was made to and in the immediate presence of Baboo Kally Nath Mitter, who has stated what is undoubtedly the fact, that he is a Magistrate for Calcutta, and consequently it is obvious that the confession is not excluded by section 26, and this being so, and it being proved that the whole of the statements contained in the document were either the actual words spoken by the prisoner, or were accepted by him as representing the true meaning of the whole he had said, and as the whole document is signed by him with his own hand, the whole of the admissions contained in the document were strictly proved to have been made by him, and were admissible against him under the Indian Evidence Act. In this view of the case, the 3rd and 4th questions become immaterial in the present case, but we wish to guard ourselves from being supposed to hold that when answers are made by an accused person in one language and written down in another, unless it is shown that it was impracticable to write them in the language in which they were spoken, section 164 would be complied with; on the contrary, we think that when such a proceeding is adopted, the statement of the accused would not be recorded under that section read with section 364, and we have very great doubts whether the defect could be cured under the provisions of section 533. The question as to whether or not section 164 has force in Calcutta was not raised at the trial. The document was put in by the prosecution, and admitted in accordance with the practice which has been followed since the passing of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882, at the Sessions held in Calcutta. In this Court the point has for the first time been raised, and argued by the Crown. On the whole, for the reasons given in our answers to the first and second questions, we think that the confession was in the present case admissible in point of law, and we answer the question reserved by the learned Judge in the negative.”

The prisoner was sentenced yesterday—not capitally but to transportation for life. Mr. Woodroffe applied for permission to appeal to the Privy Council, Mr. Justice Wilson took time to consider the order.

THE proposed municipal law for new Calcutta has attracted the attention of Parliament. In the House of Commons, on Monday evening, the 14th May, Mr. Arthur J. Williams, M.P. for South Glamorgan, asked the following question, of the Under-Secretary of State for India:—

“1. Whether it is the fact that the new Calcutta Municipality Bill, now before the Bengal Legislative Council, contains novel features unknown to like legislation in the United Kingdom; for example:—

a. Giving the power of voting under the Municipal franchise to the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce and the Calcutta Trades Association, the members of which bodies already possess the right of voting in their private capacity as citizens and b. Multiplicity of votes, it being alleged that voting, according to property qualification and by the cumulative system, obtains in English Municipal franchise procedure.

2. Whether it is the fact that the proposed measure is unpopular with a large majority of the inhabitants of Calcutta, owing, partly, to the inclusion, on arbitrary grounds, of certain suburban places within the future Municipal limits of Calcutta, although such places are already included in a Local Municipality; and

3. Whether the Secretary of State will instruct the Viceroy in Council not to sanction the Bill until the inhabitants of Calcutta have had an opportunity, by deputation or otherwise (advantage to be taken of such opportunity before the close of the present session) of expressing to the Secretary of State their objections to the measure as at present framed.”

Sir John Gorst replied:—

“The Calcutta Municipality Bill, which contains provisions of the kind referred to by the Hon’ble Member, has been for two years under discussion in the Bengal Legislative Council; and the inhabitants of Calcutta have had ample opportunities of expressing their objections to the measure, and making representations to the Secretary of State if they thought fit to do so. No such representations have been made, and the Secretary of State has no reason for interfer-

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ing with the discretion which the Governor-General possesses, under the Indian Councils Act, of assenting to, or withholding his assent from, the Bill after it has passed the Bengal Legislative Council."

THE Sanitary Commissioner of Madras reported against wet cultivation within municipal limits as dangerous to health. He says that it not only gives a great surface for evaporation but sends up into the air organic matter which is hurtful to public health. Dr. Laing, therefore, proposed to Government to limit the cultivation within a specified distance of towns and villages. Lord Connemara is not prepared to order a new law, but has referred the Doctor to Sec. 228 of Madras Act IV of 1884 which authorizes Municipal Councils to take action in the direction proposed. The new Calcutta municipal bill just passed in the local legislature, by sanctioning extension of area, invites danger they are attempting to avoid in Madras.

IN exercise of the prerogative of mercy and on advice of the sentencing Judge, the Lieutenant-Governor has favorably considered the representation on behalf of Meher Ali, convicted and sentenced to death for murder of his son-in-law Sheik Hurree. He is not to be hanged but to be transported for the term of his natural life.

POOR as he was and earning his daily bread, Hurree has left his wife Meher Jan and two young children wholly unprovided for. The Deputy Commissioner took compassion on them and raised a fund of Rs. 230 among Europeans, and he proposes to pay Rs. 8 a month to the poor bereaved family.

THE next Sessions of the Calcutta High Court is announced for Monday, the 2nd July next.

SIR CHRISTOPHER RAWLINSON, formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Madras, died in London on March 29, in the eighty second year of his age. Educated at the Charterhouse and at Trinity College, Cambridge, he took his Bachelor's degree in 1828 and proceeded M. A. in 1831, and was the same year called to the Bar at the Middle Temple. Appointed Recorder of Portsmouth in 1840, he left that post in 1847, for a judicial appointment in Singapore. After three years in the Straits Settlements, he came in 1850 to Madras as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. In 1859 he retired on a pension. He was a judge of the good old type—alive to every movement touching the good of the community, social, kind to the natives, and thoroughly impartial.

MR. R. LEYCESTER Upton, Solicitor to the Government of India, is charged with the duty of Agent to the Governor-General in Council for the affairs of the late King of Oudh and for the purposes of Act XIX of 1887, from the afternoon of the 15th May 1888.

MR. C. C. STEVENS, Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division, goes on 3 months' leave, Mr. Magistrate J. A. Hopkins from Nuddea, as different a man as possible, acting for him in the meantime. Nuddea is, however, relieved for a quarter of its incubus.

THE Burdwan Raj estate Killah Kujung, in the district of Cuttack, is to be surveyed. It has an area of 229,008 acres 3 roods and 8 poles. The order is issued by the Lieutenant-Governor under sec. 3 of Act V of 1875, and extends to the demarcation of the boundaries of tenures, mouzas and fields. The work is entrusted to the Collector of Cuttack, as Superintendent of Survey, and to Mr. R. B. Smart, Revenue Surveyor, Mr. H. M. Reilly, a Manager of the Burdwan Raj, and Baboo Harish Chandra Sarkar, the local manager, as Assistant Superintendents of Survey.

CHOLERA having abated in the Raniganj Sub-Division, the prohibition has been withdrawn against the emigration through that Sub-Division to the labor districts.

THE leading London dailies and British journalists generally, whether of the metropolis or the country, have subscribed for a mural tablet to be placed in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, to the memory of the seven journalists who were sacrificed in the Soudan in the campaigns of 1883, 1884 and 1885. It is now ready and may be seen at the Gra-

phic office before exhibition to the public, being a brass tablet 6ft. 6in. high by 3ft. 9in. wide, mounted on a red marble slab, inscribed with the names of Edmond O'Donovan, *Daily News*, Frank Vizetelly, artist, Frank Power, *Times*, John Alexander Cameron, *Standard*, Leger Algernon Herbert, C. M. G., *Morning Post*, William Henry Gordon, *Manchester Guardian*, and Frank J. L. Boberts, Reuter's Agency.

ASSISTANT Surveyor Yusuf Sharif, and two daffadars belonging to the Quarter Master General's Department, Intelligence Branch, who were with Major Yate's delimitation party, and remained behind at Herat in February last, have just reached Quetta, having completed a survey of the Taunani and Zamindawar districts on their way back to India.

WHAT an evidence is afforded by the following of the loneliness of the bustling, busy, crowded life, of the day in England!

"A gentleman advertises in the *Times* for a chum who will exchange stories and help to pass time cheerfully. The chum is to be up to long walks, must have leisure, and a purse sufficient to meet the moderate expenses involved in the pursuit of cheerfulness."

This is not the first instance of appeal to the press in personal difficulties of the kind. No wonder, the British cannot do without his newspaper.

THERE is reason to anticipate that the display of determination by the Kashmir Darbar, and the advance of reinforcements to Gilgit, will lead to the collapse of the Hunza and Nagar rising without further bloodshed. The Raja of Nagar has sent a messenger to Bakhshi Mulraj, the Kashmir commandant at Gilgit, offering to apologize for his recent misconduct. The Darbar will probably take this opportunity of settling what might have been a troublesome affair.

THE Government of India has passed orders for transferring the Bangalore Fort to the Mysore Durbar. When the rendition of Mysore took place, the fort contained an arsenal, and was occupied by British troops, it was in consequence retained, like the Civil and Military Station, within the limits over which British officers exercise jurisdiction. But the Ordnance stores have been removed to Agram, and all troops have been withdrawn; consequently the Government of India no longer requires the fort; and as, by its situation, it can be more conveniently supervised by the authorities of the Town of Bangalore than those in the Civil and Military Station, it was decided, after discussing the question thoroughly, to hand it over to the Maharaja. Opportunity has been taken at the same time to effect another rectification of the boundary of the Station, by bringing within it the Residency house and grounds. They have all along been occupied by the Resident, and it is not known what was Sir James Gordon's reason for drawing the boundary of the Civil and Military Station outside the Residency park. No practical inconvenience has, it is believed, been experienced; but it is obviously the proper arrangement that the same officers who, under the Resident, have jurisdiction in the Station, should also be able to exercise it in the Residency.

IN an able leading article distinguished by commendable sobriety of feeling, the *Rast Goftar* offers to explain Dewan Raghunath Rao's extraordinary statement at the Madras railway platform which has been telegraphed to his discredit to all parts of India. The gist of the statement is this:—

"The Maharaja being of a distrusting nature easily swallowed every thing that they [mischief-mongers] represented against the Minister, and at last an idea was put into his head that, unless and until the Dewan Bahadur publicly contradicted all those writings then appearing in the *Pioneer* on the Indore affairs, he should be considered as their author. The Maharaja's suspicion was roused by the Dewan Bahadur's flatly refusing to accede to his wishes. After that, a complete estrangement took place between them which culminated in the Minister's tendering his resignation. It was, however, not accepted by the Maharaja who sent his officials to induce the old man to stay. He was persuaded to withdraw his resignation, and the wheel of administration rolled on quietly for some time longer. But the intriguers did not desist, and at last scored their triumph over the Minister. He then found himself in a very delicate position and was constrained to resign again. At this time, unfortunately, his health failed him and a severe attack of fever brought on by excessive hard work enfeebled him to a very great extent. His medical advisers insisted upon his taking complete rest, and rest being out of the question as long as he remained at Indore, he sent in a letter in continuation of his resignation, requesting the Maharaja to relieve him of his onerous duties within a certain time he had named therein. A reply came to the effect that His Highness would neither accept his resignation nor permit him to leave Indore,

but would leave it to him to do what he thought best. The day fixed for his departure having arrived, he left Indore after seeing Her Highness the Dowager Maharanee in the absence of the Maharaja who had gone a-shikaring. This accounts for the expression he employed at Madras which was telegraphed to the Bombay papers, namely that he had neither resigned, nor been discharged nor permitted to leave Indore—an expression which was harshly criticised by some of our Bengalee contemporaries."

If that is all, we are sorry for our harshness. But it was brought on by the Dewan by his own glib tongue. His own flippant language painted him a truant old boy—runaway from his master without leave.

WITH respect to the appointment of a successor, our contemporary says:—

"A Cabinet Council was held at the Lal Baug, presided over by H. H. the Maharaja, to make a selection out of the following five names that were submitted to him:—Rao Bahadur Ramji Vithal, of Gwalior; Mr. Dhondo Shamrao Gurud, of Bombay; Khan Bahadur Kazi Shah-buddin; Rao Bahadur V. J. Kirtane; and Mr. Justice Dhurandhar, of Indore. The deliberations of the Council were opened by His Highness imposing certain conditions upon the appointment, some of which were that the Minister should not ask for powers; that he should not interfere with what His Highness did or thought; that he should obey His Highness's orders, &c., &c. The conditions were accepted, it is said, by two or three of the nominees, with the result that the Minister's portfolio was handed over to Rao Bahadur Kirtane on six months' probation."

SRINAGAR 4th—Cholera has again slightly decreased here. 376 fresh cases and 187 deaths have been reported in the city, during the last 3 days. The deaths are principally amongst the old cases. In the valley also the disease is somewhat declining.

THE chief of the Bombay Police—Sir Frank H. Souter, Kt., C. S. I., C. I. E.,—died at Ootacamund of heart disease. At the funeral, the Governor of Madras acted the chief mourner. The Commander-in-Chief, Sir Charles Sargent, the personal staffs of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, the Army Headquarters' Staff, the Members of Council, the Secretaries to Government, the Heads of Departments, the Inspector-General of Police, including lesser lights brought up the rear of the procession. If earthly honors can soothe the dead, Sir Frank's eternal rest ought to be peaceful. Places of birth and death are important factors in some men's lives. Sir Frank Souter dies more honored than if he had taken his last farewell in his own field of glory. His choice of locality for exit, if it was matter of choice on purpose, was a decided hit. Perhaps some portion of the *post mortem éclat* was due to the handle he had secured to his name.

A GREAT sensation has naturally been caused by the accounts, which have appeared in the press, of a lamentable disturbance which was caused at a wedding party in the Parsee temple in town. The *Statesman* comes out with what appears to be the true facts:—

"A fracas of a very unpleasant nature occurred, we are sorry to learn, at the Parsee Fire Temple on Monday evening last, during or immediately after the performance of a marriage ceremony thereat. It is the custom of this small but much respected section of the Calcutta community, to issue invitations on such occasions to every member of the community, without respect to their position in what is called society. The custom is so pleasing in itself, that it wants neither defence nor apology, and on Monday afternoon last, the whole Parsee community of less perhaps than 100 persons, were present in the Temple to offer congratulations to the bride and bridegroom on their union, and make public prayers for their prosperity and happiness. Small as the society is, there are not wanting in it however, those heart-burnings and private enmities that are found everywhere; while their existence was shewn in a very painful manner on this occasion, when the service being over the families were dispersing from the Temple which they owe to the liberality and kindness of the late Rustonjee Manockjee, now represented amongst us by our venerable old friend Manockjee Rustonjee his son. Some jealousy we fear has been excited in the community by the appointment of Mr. R. D. Mehta to the position of an honorary Magistrate, and as Mr. Mehta was leaving the Temple, some one seems to have thrown an egg at him, striking him in the face and spattering its contents all over his person. That this outrage was really committed, there seems to be no doubt whatever. Mr. Mehta too hastily believed it to have been offered by Mr. Padshah, upon whom both he and his father at once turned, the latter in his excitement striking Mr. Padshah with a stick very heavily across the head, while the former in his anger was betrayed into language which unhappily is but too common amongst all classes in this country.

Mr. Padshah seems to have been seriously hurt, and as he has declared explicitly that he neither committed the outrage nor knew who did it Mr. Mehta has acted rightly in offering an apology for the assault without reserve. It was hardly justifiable we think in these circumstances, to give publicity to statements that were so purely *ex-parte* as those in the letter published in the *Indian Daily News*. A precisely similar letter was addressed to ourselves, but was suppressed by us on

the ground that such charges, if preferred at all, ought to have been preferred before a magistrate, when Mr. Mehta would have had an opportunity of shewing the provocation that he had received. The letter made not the slightest mention of the fact, that Mr. Mehta had been greatly provoked, and he is held up before the world as having made an entirely gratuitous assault upon a person who had offered him no offence whatever. It requires more philosophy than most of us possess to receive with meekness the discharge of an egg full in one's face and over one's clothes, and although Mr. Mehta's best friends must regret his exhibition of so much anger under the provocation—'Let him that is without sin amongst us, cast the first stone at him.' The letter ought never to have been published, but as the matter is over, we shall say no more about it."

We are truly sorry for both sides, specially the victim of the terrible assault delivered unawares. We hope Mr. Padshah has by this thoroughly recovered.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

WE are glad to notice that the recruitment of coolies and their condition in Assam have engaged the attention of both the Local and Supreme Governments. Whatever of colour there may be in the unsifted representations of the ignorant men, or in the sensational reports of political emissaries or party journalists, there are doubtless many abuses. These must, in the nature of the thing, exist. It is the duty of humane Governments to prevent them so far as may be, and of all humane men to help in the good work. The law on the subject was passed some years ago. In the interest of both labour and capital, it needs change. But no law will ever protect the poor without purity of administration. It is there where the shoe most pinches. What security for liberty or property, for instance, can there be in a country in which justice is administered by magistrates like Extra Assistant Commissioner Boruah, who the other day convicted fourteen men of theft, without evidence and against every reasonable presumption? Mr. Boruah, apparently not satisfied in his own mind as to what was doing, did not send the poor coolies to prison, but levied a fine of Rs. 5 on each man. His very leniency however puts the men out of the benefit of appeal. We do hope the Chief Commissioner of Assam will do the poor fellows the justice they are denied in his courts.

WHATEVER the abuses of coolie recruiting for plantations at home or colonies abroad, never during the worst period, before public attention was roused to the subject, was the system so bad and unblushing as that which is at this very moment being pursued in the Northern hills in British India, for enlisting native recruits for the army. The matter formed the subject of an editorial note in the *Morning Post* of Allahabad not long ago, but failed to attract the attention of the press or public. As the victims are practically dumb and helpless, we consider it a duty to revive the subject. We do this the more readily as we have come to know that the writer is no Allahabad Cockney but a gentleman of the North; in fact, we have been assured by himself of the truth of his statement, to wit:—

The Government have been recently, that is during the last three or four years, been adding to their military strength, by raising 2nd Battalions to all their Goorkah regiments in the service. But, on account of the extreme difficulty that has been experienced of obtaining the genuine Goorkah recruits from Nepal, they have been compelled to have recourse to and substitute enlistment of the descendants of Goorkahs and other Paharies who live in Gurwal and in and about the vicinity of Almorah, Srinuggur, &c., &c. This has particularly been the case with the 3rd Goorkas, better known as the Kumaon Regiment. This battalion is, we believe, to be located in new cantonments somewhere in a direction due north of the station of Nujeebabad on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, at a place named Kala Danda, which is a short distance in the hills in the interior above Kotdwarra. So far so good. Now the 3rd Goorkahs, if we have not been wrongly informed, contains a larger percentage of Ghurwallis than any of the other Goorkah Regiments, and so as to obtain the required number of men to bring the second battalion up to its required strength, recruiting parties have been sent out into the interior to enlist Ghurwallis, particularly in that portion of the district which lies to the North of the road which runs from Almorah in the direction of Paori and Srinuggur. These recruiting parties have been spread about in this portion of the district and have, whilst engaged in beating up for recruits, been guilty of bullying, harrassing and terrorizing the villagers in their immediate neighbourhood. Their method of procedure is as follows. Having obtained the

names of all the likely young men in the various villages adjacent to their parties, these are written down in a list as having actually enlisted, and this is done without the consent of the young men themselves, their parents or other relatives. These young recruits or, we should rather call them by their proper military designation, conscripts, are marched before the officer in command of the recruiting party, who, deluded by the misrepresentations of his own men, utterly refuses to pay any heed to the representations made by them.

We hope the Government will make the necessary inquiry and stop this unheard of conscription without even the colour of authority, and against all law.

NOTICING a report from Hyderabad of Abdul Huq's determination to throw himself on the mercy of the Nizam, and make restitution of the money that he received in payment of the shares in the Deccan Mining Company that he induced His Highness to buy last year, the *Advocate of India* is doubtful of the efficacy of so late a repentance. Our contemporary again kills two birds with one stone, though East Bengal imperspicacity may not see it, or seeing may be morally too self-conscious to admire the sportsmanship :

"If instead of blustering, with the help of able lawyers at two thousand rupees a day, he had made submission to the Nizam when he was first asked for an explanation, he would probably have been able to smooth over the affair without any great personal sacrifice. Oriental masters are not very stern ; and he might have thrown a gloss over his little peccadilloes by a judicious expenditure of a few of the many lakhs which he has made in the past six years. He might even have served his cause by purchasing a Bombay journal, if he were a wise man. Now it is too late. The Nizam has been angered by his attitude of defiance, and is not to be placated by a tardy submission, which, indeed, will be construed generally as a wish to end further inquiry into his doings."

At Hyderabad they will probably smile at our contemporary's remark, and put it to the score of British superstition. What is time at Hyderabad, or truth, either? Native Princes are at once long-suffering and easily appeased. We are not surprised, therefore, to hear that the first step towards white-washing Huq and his restoration to favour, so far as these lie with the Nizam, has been taken.

It will be remarked how deftly—pace the Dacca moralist—the *Advocate* touches up its neighbour the *Gazette*.

SINCE the last report, Abdul Huq has been more liberal in his offer towards compromise. He takes back the 12,500 shares he sold to the Nizam's Government last year, and repays £151,631, thus : He gives 7 lacs in cash, transfers 4 lacs due to him by the Arab Jemadar, and for the balance mortgages to the Nizam's Government all his Bombay property, and all without prejudice to any action the Government may be advised to adopt regarding himself or the mining concession. He has now permission to leave Hyderabad to arrange the matter at Bombay.

THE *Bangalore Post* gives the following notice of the General Willoughby who has been expelled from Madagascar. When five years back the French invaded the island, they found him in high favor. He was then sent to Europe to induce any of the Powers to come to the rescue of Madagascar. He failed to obtain allies or patrons, and on his return was coldly treated by the Queen and the ministry. The French who now gained a footing in the country, were not slow to follow the Malagasy against a man whom they might have reason to fear. Various charges were brought against Willoughby. But nothing came of the jealousy of the intriguers at court or the malice of the invaders, beyond the temporary disgrace of Willoughby. After a time, the prejudice against him wore away. A reaction even showed itself. He was taken back to favor. But again there was withdrawal of royal favour. And now he has been actually dismissed—doubtless, at French instigation if not dictation.

The history of French ascendancy in the island, is of a piece with the whole history of European colonization and conquest. In 1883, the island was suffering from the Colony fever. M. Jules Ferry, acting as the organ of the chivalrous French nation, aggravated the misfortune by sending over an expedition for its conquest. The people naturally resisted, and the French did not find the campaign a walk over. However, at length, Civilization triumphed. Madagascar submitted—ceding Diego Suarez Bay and £800,000 for expenses of war, and accepting a French Protectorate. Towards the end of 1886, differences again broke out, without leading to a rupture, however.

INDIA has lost a remarkable man in the death of Bhagvan Lal Indraj. A Pandit of the old class, he commenced life as a practitioner of Hindu medicine, but a lucky accident diverted him to the study of numismatics and paleography, in which he acquired lasting distinction and did good service to letters. That accident was his meeting with another medical practitioner—the famous Bhau Daji. The latter, though a graduate in European medicine at the Grant College, had been driven, by its uncertainty and insufficiency, to inquire into indigenous drugs and native methods of treatment. Here was a natural point of contact between the two sons of *Æsculapius*. It was doubtless from his intimate communication with the practitioners of indigenous medicine, that Dr. Bhau Daji derived those hints which enabled him to make important therapeutic discoveries in the treatment of leprosy and other diseases. Dr. Daji was, however, not only great in his profession, but he was still more celebrated as an antiquarian, and he introduced his young Vaidya friend to a taste for his own archæologic pursuits. Into these Indraj plunged with an absorbing passion, devoting himself in especial to the patient study of Indian paleography. He gave his friend invaluable help in deciphering copper plates and rock inscriptions. After Daji's lamented death, he pursued his researches on his own hook, and before long acquired a European reputation. But with a generosity of disposition rare in the East as in the West, he never missed an opportunity of acknowledging his obligations to the deceased. He never pretended to be aught else but a disciple. And this in no conventional compliment. All his contributions to the museums and learned societies are inscribed with his name and designation as the pupil of Dr. Bhau Daji.

At a recent meeting of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, one of Bombay's most distinguished citizens, Mr. Javerilal Umiashunker Yajnik read a paper on Pandit Indraj's career.

WE have never been slow to acknowledge the deficiencies and defects of the Native Press, and have frequently rebuked, without compunction, our erring brethren. We have of late been positively humiliated by the attitude of a part, not the least numerous nor least active, of our Press. But a great and invaluable institution should not be discredited for the sins of its representatives for the time being. After all, there are papers and papers, in the Native Press as in the European. We cannot, therefore, let the systematic wholesale depreciation of native journalists, even by papers of the stamp of the *Bengal Times*, go without challenge. The question of our contemporary, "What man with a shred of self-respect, or discrimination pays heed to what a Native editor writes?" is easily disposed of. We answer, Dr. Pollen, of Sind, for one. That accomplished and learned member of the Civil Service, has lately been lecturing on the Native Press. In the course of his sage discourse, he pays *en passant* a well-merited compliment to a well-known journal of that Presidency, the *Indian Spectator*. We are the more free to recognise the justice of Dr. Pollen's commendation that, in the great sphere of Social Reform, which that paper has made its chief speciality, we do not sail in the same boat. We think it necessary to mention this fact, in order to anticipate the suggestion too often made, in a certain quarter, that we mutually exchange compliments. From its start, the *Indian Spectator* was distinguished for ability and smartness, but as it grew in years and experience it mellowed down to a wise moderation of tone, coupled with all legitimate firmness and sincerity of utterance, which contrasted with the loud effervescence of many of the Indian press, native or European. Of course, every paper has its own loves and hates—its hobbies and whipping-boys. Its writers are unsurpassed for caustic rallery, but the employment of wit is usually restrained by good sense and prudence, and the paper never descends to mere invective or vague abuse of Government or political opponents. It is a party paper, to be sure, but it has the courage as well as honesty to condemn natives when the occasion, in its judgment, requires such condemnation. Thus, it is seldom that in the desert to which the native press has, of late years, run, we come upon such a refreshing oasis as this remark, to wit—

"There is a class of men whose patriotism consists in opposing every suggestion that does not emanate from themselves. Unhappily, they have the ear of the masses, and this makes progress all the more difficult."

That probes a real sore in the heart of our society which is ruining its health. It is not only that we have such a class of men, but our loudest patriotism is tainted with this pusillanimity. It was time that honest men combined to put this sort of trafficking in public affairs down.

Better still, as evidencing not only independence but superior powers of observation, is the following :—

"We are afraid Ahmedabad has too many pleaders for its peace of mind. And having poor business in Court, which they do but poorly, they busy themselves with public affairs, sometimes without knowledge, and often with the object of showing themselves wiser than others. This is more or less the case all over the country. It is time, we think, that India profited in this respect by the experience of other nations. France has suffered grievously from this ascendancy of advocates; the United States have but recently freed themselves from the evil. Public opinion in Great Britain, too, has suffered under the influence of too much special pleading; but although the legal element is very strong in the British Parliament of our own day, we doubt if it influences the conduct of public affairs to an undue extent. The lawyer, as such, is a doubtful force in the House; his advocacy is often instinctively distrusted. The man of law in India is certainly no way better than his brother among better educated communities; and though, of course, there are lawyers and lawyers, still, as a rule, our legal friend is too eager to make out his case. He can abuse under cover of argument, and the layman, who has not his tongue, is generally powerless before such an opponent. We say this especially in reference to the worse kind of mofussil pleaders. From these we should like India to be saved. The country may tide over floods and fires periodically, she may put up with epidemics at times; but a plague of pleaders is what India can no longer stand if she is to get on. The pleaders have hitherto had it too much their own way. Let the other professions be fairly represented on our Municipal Boards and elsewhere. And perhaps the best way to do it is to keep these professions on a footing of equality with the legal. The graduate in Arts, Engineering or Medicine ought to be intellectually the equal of the graduate in Law, able to hold his own in debate and in all concerns of public life."

That is outspoken certainly, but true every word of it.

WIT which depends for its point on a verbal analogy, is not the despised thing that some have affected to regard it. Nearly all humourists, including the best, from Shakespeare to Lamb and Hook, have indulged in it, more or less. There have been some pretty examples of the kind. But it is confessedly a low form. For want of better occupation or capacity, a poor victim of the *caecothus scribendi* in England has been spinning out the following poor joke with, rather than on, the names of English newspapers and periodicals of the day :—

"In the early part of this the *Nineteenth Century* of the *Christian Era*, a citizen of the *World* strolled at night, along *Pall Mall* on his way from *Belgravia* to *Whitehall* accompanied only by the *Echo* of his footsteps. An old *Engineer* and soldier of the *Queen*, he had traversed by *Land* and *Water* the greater part of the *Globe*, and had since his *Broad Arrow* days fought under more than one *Standard*. Taking out his *Tablet* he stood and wrote as follows :—'The study of *Public Opinion* offers a wide *Field* for the intelligent *Spectator* and *Examiner* on the *Times*.' At this moment a *Watchman*, who had been a close *Observer* of his movements, approached and said 'come, my noble *Sportsman*, you must move on!' 'And what if I refused?' demanded the other, standing like a *Rock* with his back against a *Post* unmovable as *Temple Bar*. 'to be *Brief* with you, my friend, I shall in *Truth* stay here a *Week* if I think proper.' 'Well, rejoined the *Civilian*, 'I am the appointed *Guardian* of this thoroughfare *All the year round*, and I protest against your making any *Sketch* or *Record* here,—are you a *Builder*?' Instantly a grasp of *Iron* was laid on his arm. 'Do you wish me to *Punch* your head?' asked the *Traveller*. 'Oh no,' replied the other all of a *Quiver* 'pray don't, I was only in *jest*.'"

That is a trying and rather formidable effort, which brings to mind Johnson's famous condemnation. Both writer and readers are objects of pity, indeed, the one to be condemned to that dull cobweb-weaving—the others to be constrained to read the production. What solemn trifling! It has not even the recommendation of an aid to the memory, seeing that important papers like the *Daily News*, *Vanity Fair*, *Graphic*, &c., and nearly all the magazines are left out. Indeed, it were hardly worth while making the catalogue more exhaustive. It would be a worse infliction. As a vehicle for stringing facts together for easier recollection, the process can never compete with verse, which is so largely employed for the purpose in the copious languages of the East. Punning—and the literary effort quoted above is little better than punning, of a sort—may be permissible. But punning, without proper provocation and on this scale, is simply Love's Labour lost. A general disposition to this sort of dissipation would be ominous of a sure corruption of literature, such as has taken place in the East.

AMERICA is go-ahead, and no mistake—in folly no less than in wisdom. The vanity and frivolity of the French capital have long been proverbial. But there might, it appears, be a lower deep beyond the depths of Parisian degradation, and that was reserved for the "mashers" and "dudes," the *beaus* and *belles* of the Transatlantic Republic. Not long ago, we heard that, instead of the old fashioned kid-skin cases, human skin gloves were much in request—not in the Fiji Islands, but in the heart of Christendom, in the cities of Puritan New England. Next, we

were told that the Christian heroes of fashion affected rattlesnake cravats. And now

"The latest craze among the fashionable ladies in America according to a Chicago newspaper, is to wear a diamond embedded in one of their front teeth. This remarkable development of feminine vanity is said to owe its origin to a favourite burlesque actress in New York, who thought it would be very delightful indeed to flash dazzling gleams of light upon her admirers every time she opened her mouth. The diamond—of course a very small one—is fixed in a false front tooth two-thirds the size of the natural incisor, a corresponding portion of which is cut away and the false tooth 'pivoted' on to the real one. Were the gem embedded in a natural tooth, it would speedily cause it to decay. The tooth selected for adornment is always the most prominent; and the lady to whom the credit of this brilliant inspiration is due is said to have created a very great sensation upon her first appearance with a diamond in her mouth. The New York dentist who aided her to achieve this triumph says he has just received half a dozen orders for front teeth set with diamonds."

Talk after that of the barbaric East? Why, as the wealth of Ormus and of Ind has been long since eclipsed by the fields of gold and mountains of silver of America, so the barbarian of these parts of the globe has been carried over across the Pacific to the New World. Where, in Asia, is there anything to match the truly barbaric use of gems of these American ladies? The analogue of that new fashion of the far West is not to be found in what is condescendingly called by European writers the semi-civilisation of India, China, Japan or Persia. It has rather to be sought in the elaborate toilette of African savagery in which the women file their front teeth into thin cones.

Nothing is so bad that some good may not be got out of it. Absurd and shameful as this fashion is, it may be utilised as a convincing exposure of a grave popular error. It is the universal belief in the East, that the diamond taken into the stomach acts as a virulent destroying poison. Not is the notion confined to Asiatics. Anglo-Indians, if not Europeans at Home, share the notion. It was in the belief in the toxic action of diamond dust that Colonel Phayre, at the advice of Dr. Seward, charged the late Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, the ruling Maharaja of Baroda, with attempting his life by the administration of that poison. That belief was certainly endorsed by the Government of Lord Northbrook, when they prosecuted and tried the sovereign of that Maharatta State.

LAST Saturday, at the Town Hall, Captain Hearsey addressed a number of native gentlemen on the subject he has now taken in hand—the confiscation of a temple property at Benares. He expected a larger audience, but many who were fully expected, did not turn up, and after waiting for full one hour, he laid his case before the meeting. He was cheered from time to time, and at the conclusion, a hearty vote of thanks was proposed and carried. The Government had better look into the grievance of which he complains, unless they do not mind to have another Laidman business in their hands.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON will be better remembered in Bengal for his memorial portrait in the Town Hall of this city, than for the wisdom he displayed in the government of these Provinces. His remarkable good fortune followed him to the last. Surely, it was a happy accident that a renowned Scotch Academician should have been at hand at Calcutta to take his portrait voted by his admirers. The result is a fine work of art. Mr. James Archer has presented him in the best light conceivable, and yet the likeness is so vividly perfect that, after it was finished at Belvedere, a high native official, mistaking it for the reality, respectfully bowed to it. The Memorial Committee, at their meeting of Monday presided over by Sir Alexander Wilson, properly resolved to expend a portion of the Fund in photographic copies of the oil-painting. They will be distributed here and a number of copies sent to Sir Rivers. The memorial casket

Holloway's Ointment.—Go where you may, in every country and in all climes persons will be found who have a ready word of praise for this Ointment. For chaps, chafes, scalds, bruises, and sprains, it is an invaluable remedy; for bad legs, bad breasts, and piles, it may be confidently relied upon for effecting a sound and permanent cure. In cases of puffed ankles, erysipelas, and rheumatism, Holloway's Ointment gives the greatest comfort by reducing the inflammation, cooling the blood, soothing the nerves, adjusting the circulation, and expelling the impurities. This Ointment should have a place in every nursery. It will cure all those manifold skin affections which, originating in childhood, gain strength with the child's growth.

is ready and is to be sent to him at once. Sir Alexander significantly drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that more than half the subscriptions came from the natives. The Committee, after providing for all expenses, still hold a balance of about Rs. 8,000. This sum is not to be expended here, but is to be placed at the disposal of the subject himself of the memorial—to furnish himself with a memento of his rule of the Bengal Province. Lady Mayo wished a portion of the memorial Fund of her murdered Lord to be expended in repairing her house. Sir Rivers has expressed no such wish, but the Committee are honest practical men, and they will not withhold from even a pensioned Cæsar what might be his due. Sir Rivers is free to choose his own memorial at Home.

ONE of the successful students at the last Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University, is the minor Maharaja Sree Ram Chandra Bunj Deo of Mourbhanj. He is the first prince of Orissa who has earned the distinction. It proves him a worthy scion of a family distinguished for intelligence, and shows that he has good teachers. All will depend upon how he progresses hereafter, and whether he preserves his nationality. What is the good of an Indian Prince looking and living like an Indo-Portuguese?

A CANADIAN lady has just sued a man for 2,000 dols. for kissing her on the cheek. She alleges that the shock was so great as to incapacitate her from performing household duties for two weeks. That is a good modest woman, with a commendable self-respect and appreciation of personal integrity, but why does she demand dollars in satisfaction, instead of walking up to the magistrate and calling for a good flogging for the base invader? Perhaps there were legal difficulties, under the Western dispensation damages of all kinds being appraised at their respective money values. In that case, she should not have gone to court at all, but appealed to a relative or friend to horse-whip the fellow in public. It is obviously cowardly in a man to employ force against a woman, and sheer barbarous stupidity to exact *vi et armis* an amenity which loses all value if not cheerfully given. Such a reprisal, however proper as an expression of the indignation of society and useful for the protection of womankind, would hardly satisfy the honor of the injured lady. There is, indeed, no reparation for her. We speak as Orientals, of course, and Hindus, and have scant hope of sympathy from Western peoples. It will be enough if we are understood.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1888.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

IF we have sharply criticised the Public Service Commission's decision on the question of an Indian competition for the Civil Service, it is from no want of appreciation of the generally liberal tenor of the rest of its recommendations. Indeed, as we have already said, the Commission's proposals are well calculated to widen the sphere of native employment, and, if adopted in the main, will go far to redeem the hopes raised by its appointment. Viewed as a whole, the document marks an era in our history, while it offers no mean indication of the liberal tendencies of the present administration.

The extended employment of natives of India in higher administrative charges, hitherto exclusively reserved for the Civil Service, is proposed to be effected by a variety of methods. The competition for the highest offices is, indeed, restricted to London, but the number of such offices is proposed to be reduced, with the view of adding the remainder to the Provincial Service. The appointments reserved by law for the Covenanted Civil Service, are those enumerated in the Schedule attached to the Statute 24 and 25 Vic., Chapter 54. A portion of these appointments

are recommended to be excluded from the Schedule, viz., the following :—

(1) Under-Secretaries to the several Governments in India.

(2) One-third of District and Civil and Sessions Judges or chief judicial officers of Districts; and in the Punjab one-third of the officers aforesaid after deducting the proportion (one-fourth) reserved for Military Officers.

(3) One-third of the Joint and Assistant Judges in the Bombay Presidency.

(4) One-tenth of Magistrates or Chief Magisterial Officers of Districts (including Deputy Commissioners); and in the Punjab and Assam, one-tenth of the officers aforesaid after deducting the proportion (one-fourth) reserved for Military Officers.

(5) One-sixth of Joint-Magistrates in all Provinces.

(6) One Member of the Board of Revenue in the Madras Presidency; in the Lower Provinces of Bengal; and in the North-Western Provinces; and one of the Financial Commissioners in the Punjab.

(7) One (where there are more than one) of the Secretaries to the Board of Revenue (or Commissioners who constitute the Board of Revenue) in the Madras Presidency; in the Lower Provinces of Bengal; and in the North-Western Provinces; and one Secretary to the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab.

(8) One of the Chief Revenue Officers of Divisions in all Provinces except Bombay and Assam.

(9) One-tenth of Collectors of Revenue or Chief Revenue Officers of Districts; and in the Punjab and Assam one-tenth of the officers aforesaid after deducting the proportion (one-fourth) reserved for Military Officers.

(10) One-sixth of Deputy or Subordinate Collectors where combined with the office of Joint-Magistrates in all Provinces.

(11) One-sixth of Assistant Collectors or Assistant Commissioners; and in the Punjab and Assam one-sixth of the officers aforesaid after deducting the proportion (one-fourth) reserved for Military Officers.

This is no small measure of liberality. 108 appointments reserved in the Schedule will be removed from it—a number in excess of the proportion of one-sixth of the same appointments thrown open under the Statutory Rules.

The restriction of the competition examination to London will operate, indeed, harshly against the free admission of Natives of India to the Imperial Service. This evil, however, will be considerably counteracted by the Commission's proposal with respect to the age of candidates, which is that the minimum and maximum limit of age for Native candidates at the open competitive examination held in England, should be 19 and 23 years respectively.*

The Provincial Service as proposed to be constituted for the more extensive employment of Natives of India, will occupy, in fact, the position of the present Covenanted Civil Service. Without the opprobrious degradation now belonging to the Uncovenanted, recruited equally from candidates passed at the London competition, and Natives who have not passed that competition, and being placed on a footing of social equality with the Imperial Service, it will afford adequate scope to native ambition, and occupy a position, in their estimation, of higher honor than the Statutory Civil Service.

The Miscellaneous Departments of the administration are also recommended to be officered more largely by Natives of India. The chief administra-

tive offices being generally recruited from candidates passed at the London competition, all other offices subordinate to them, and at present exclusively filled by the same class, are recommended to be amalgamated with the Provincial Service. The effect of this will be the same as that of the foregoing proposals, *viz.*, the placing of the Provincial Service on a wide basis and a footing of sufficient dignity.

That the Commission has been in a position to make these liberal proposals, is not a little to its credit. It had to encounter powerful opposition and prejudice against native interests. Sir Rivers Thompson may be taken as a fair type of the Anglo-Indian official, and how did he view the prospect of wider employment of the people in the higher offices? He was strongly disposed to maintain an invidious race distinction in the recruitment for the civil appointments. He went so far as to fear that, if the age limit were raised, it would have the effect of inundating the Service with natives. The Commission's answers to his objections are conceived in a proper and just spirit, and reflect great credit on its integrity and firmness. "This suggestion" [*viz.* for a separate competition for Natives], says the report,

"does not commend itself to the Commission. In the first place, it involves a differential mode of treatment which would certainly be distasteful to the Native community, whose desire is to be permitted to compete on equal terms with the educated youth of England. In the next place, the adoption of any suggestion which involves separate standards of examination for Europeans and Natives is open to many of the objections which have been taken in the evidence before the Commission to the Statutory Service, and to which reference will be made in the following Chapter of this Report. Not the least prominent of these is the fact that persons appointed otherwise than by a common test and under a common standard are liable to be regarded as not possessing the same qualifications. Moreover, the system of allotting a certain number of appointments to be competed for by Natives and Europeans respectively is a departure from the principles of the Statute of 1833 and the Queen's Proclamation, inasmuch as it involves an artificial exclusion of candidates on grounds of race from appointments for which they may be in other respects the best qualified persons. It has indeed been suggested that if increased facilities are given to Natives in connection with the open competition in England, it is desirable to fix such a limit in order to guard against Natives gaining admission to the service by the competitive examination to an extent which may prove a source of difficulty or embarrassment. But when the disadvantages are considered under which Natives labour in competing in a foreign language, in a foreign country, in subjects of study peculiarly English, and against the flower of English schools and colleges, the hypothesis involves so violent an improbability that it may be dismissed without serious discussion.

In short, the Commission is of opinion that the competition in England should remain open as heretofore, without restriction or distinction, as by the present law provided, to all natural-born subjects of Her Majesty, of whatever race or colour or creed or place of birth, who can satisfy the preliminary conditions prescribed in the rules framed by the Civil Service Commissioners, and that selection should be made impartially and indifferently from among the candidates according to their order of merit as ascertained in one and the same examination."

The same firmness has been shown in deciding upon the conflicting evidence adduced before the Commission on the vexed question of the eligibility of natives to the District Magistracies. The point is of such interest that we are sure the public will be glad to have the Commission's decision of it placed before them in its full details. We have therefore no hesitation in quoting the report *in extenso* :—

"Stronger objections have been raised in the course of the enquiries of the Commission to the employment of Natives in district charges than in high judicial offices, and many witnesses have advised that they should be altogether excluded from offices of the former description. In view of the fact that the District Officer is the direct representative of the Executive Government in all Departments of the administration, that he is primarily responsible for the peace of the district, that he is occasionally called on to deal with religious riots and disturbances of a dangerous kind, that he is head of the police, that his work necessarily brings him into frequent contact with officers of other Departments on whose co-operation its success must largely depend, that the District Officer is invested with the control and training of the junior officers of the Imperial Service, and that in times of war the Government has to rely upon the District Officer for the supply of military transport, for keeping open communications, and for other arrangements in connection with the army in the field, it is argued that he should be an officer of the Covenanted Civil Service. More especially is this said to be the case in regard to districts in which there is a more or less considerable European non-official community or where troops are quartered or important military establishments located.

On the other hand it is argued that it is unfair to allege that Natives of India are not qualified to hold offices their fitness for which has not hitherto been tested and no adequate training ground for which has up to the present time been supplied; that in dealing with riots and disturbances, with the supply of transport, stores and recruits in time of war, and other matters of general administration, the District Officer has to rely almost entirely upon Native agency; that European gentlemen readily enough accept employment under Native control in Native States, Native Armies, as tutors in Native families and managers of Native estates; that there are many districts in which there are no troops and few Europeans, and where no difficulties of collision are likely to arise; and that when Natives have been largely employed in offices of control in other Departments, they have not only not been found wanting but have discharged their duties with marked efficiency.

After a careful consideration of the arguments which have been brought forward on the subject, the Commission is unable to proceed on the general assumption that Natives are unfit for district or other executive charges. They have as yet had no sufficient opportunity of showing their capacity in this respect in the higher executive administration, and the generality of this assumption is not warranted by experience in Departments in which Natives have already been tried. Moreover, it is stated that Natives of India, when placed in charge of districts in Native States, which have been temporarily under British management, have in some cases performed their duties to the entire satisfaction of their superiors and have proved themselves most efficient officers. The same may be said of many Native officers who have held Sub-Divisional charges in British India. Under these circumstances the Commission considers that due opportunity should be afforded to Natives to prove their fitness for holding the executive charge of districts, and the proposals of the Commission to remove certain district charges from the Schedule of the Statute have been made with this view. As regards the Subordinate Secretariat appointments which it is proposed to exclude from the Schedule, it is only necessary to observe that, as these appointments are invariably made by selection, the effect of their exclusion is merely to widen the area from which the most highly qualified agency can be chosen."

The Commission had smaller opposition to contend with as regards the larger admission of native officers to the judicial branch of the Service, and it is gratifying that these offices will be more largely filled by the Natives of the country, although the Commission is perhaps justly unable to throw them open entirely to them. We have nothing to complain on this head. It is sufficient that the marked ability showed by natives in the highest judicial offices, as well as the aptitude for judicial duties displayed by them in the subornate judiciary, which is almost exclusively composed of the native element, is recognised. It is sufficient that the claims of successful native officers will be adequately met by more extensively employing them for High Court and District Judgeships, and we do not complain if the judiciary is not to consist exclusively of natives.

THE PURNEA MAHOMEDAN RAJA'S LAWSUIT.

A GREAT book has been declared, on high authority, to be a great evil. If so, what shall be said of a great litigation, directly involving several families and indirectly many more, maybe hundreds of employes and thousands of tenants on an estate? Of course, here, as everywhere else, the law of compensation reigns. If stubborn litigation ruins the parties and exhausts many others into the bargain, it prospers others—the lawyers, of sorts, and their myrindons, more or less recognised, accessories before, during, and after the fact—beaters of the game and so forth. But a great preface is no less an evil, and we must not spin the preliminary yarn farther, but plunge at once in *medias res*.

An emphatically great lawsuit has come to an end in the High Court. We refer to the big Purnea case, which has just been disposed of by a Divisional Bench consisting of Messrs. Justice Norris and Beverley.

Raja Fakrooddin was the proprietor, in the District of Purnea, of Pergunnah Surajpur, divided into Deohri Khagra and Deohri Kissenganj. He died leaving two sons Didar Hossein and Akbar Hossein. Didar Hossein received as his share Deohri Khagra and Akbar Hossein got Kissenganj. Didar left a son Enayet Hossein—Enayet left a son Atta Hossein—a Jubilee Nawab. He enjoys now half the Pergunnah Surajpur. Akbar Hossein died leaving three widows—Zahoorun Nissa, Goolchamun and Domni. Zahoorun Nissa had a brother named Meer Hossein Reza. On the death of Zahoorun Nissa, Meer Hossein Reza came to enjoy her share of Deohri Kissenganj. Hossein Reza died leaving three sons—Mahomed Reza, Ahmed Reza and Enayet Reza. Ahmed Reza better known as Raja Ahmed Reza—the father of the Plaintiffs and Defendants—died possessed of 6 annas 1 gunda + 11

gundas of Deohri Kissenganj, and leaving two sons Syed Hyder Reza and Syed Sufdar Reza by his wife Ranees Afzulun Nissa. He also left four sons by his wife Ranees Roshan Jahan. Of these four, two sons—Asgar Reza and Delawar Reza still survive.

Raja Ahmed Reza married Afzulun Nissa in 1854, but in 1851 the Raja purchased the 11 gundas share in the name of his Mooktear Kasem Ali, who subsequently transferred it to Ranees Afzulun Nissa. Raja Ahmed Reza, during his lifetime, was in possession of the 11 gundas. Afzulun Nissa died before Ahmed Reza. Her mother Mehru Nissa acted as the guardian of Hyder Reza and Sufdar Reza and, as such, affixed her seal to various documents on their behalf. On the death of Ahmed Reza, Hyder Reza and Sufdar Reza took possession of and enjoyed the 11 gundas as their own. Hyder Reza mortgaged half of the 11 gundas to Nawab Looft Ali Khan, of Patna, and eventually sold the same to him for the sum of 5½ laes. Syed Asgar Reza and Delawar Reza being minors, the Court of Wards had charge of their estate. Asgar Reza on becoming of age instituted a suit before the Sub-Judge of Purnea, Babu Balak Chand, against Hyder Reza, Sufdar Reza and Nawab Looft Ali Khan, to have it declared that the 11 gundas which was purchased by Kasem Ali with Ahmed Reza's money and which eventually stood in the name of Afzulun Nissa, formed part of the estate of Ahmed Reza, that the sale by Hyder Reza to Nawab Looft Ali Khan was bad in law, and that they were each entitled to one-sixth share, according to Mahomedan law.

The case before the Sub-Judge lasted for nearly six months. It cost the Plaintiffs about Rs. 40,000 and Nawab Looft Ali Khan Rs. 60,000. The case of the Plaintiffs was that the purchase of 11 gundas by Ahmed Reza in the name of Kasem Ali was a *benamie* transaction, and that the transfer by Kasem Ali to Afzulun Nissa was also *benamie*. Hyder Reza and Sufdar Reza did not appear. The case of the Nawab Defendant was that the purchase was not *benamie* nor was the transfer *benamie*, and as a matter of fact the 11 gundas was a gift by Raja Ahmed Reza to his wife Afzulun Nissa, that during the lifetime of Raja Ahmed Reza the property was treated as separate property of the wife. The Nawab mainly relied on a deed executed by Ahmed Reza shortly before his death, in which he specified what his properties were, and distinctly declared that this 11 gundas belonged to his minor sons Hyder and Sufdar.

Babu Balak Chand, in a very lengthy judgment, decided the case against the Plaintiffs, and held that the purchase by Ahmed Reza was not *benamie*; and that the Nawab was purchaser for valuable consideration without notice. Asgar Reza appealed. Messrs. Woodroffe, Evans, M. Ghose and Mohesh Chunder Chowdhry and two other Pleaders appeared for the appellants. Messrs. Advocate-General, G. Gregory, A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, C. Gregory, Moonshee Mahomed Yusuf and two other Pleaders represented the Nawab respondent.

The case came on before Norris and Beverley J. J. on April 23. Mr. Woodroffe very ably opened the case and continued for another 7 days. Mr. Evans followed him for a day. Mr. Woodroffe endeavoured to shew that the transaction was *benamie* and the 11 gundas formed part of Ahmed Reza's estate. He relied on the well-known Privy Council Gossain case and cited a number of authorities. He also argued that the deed executed by Ahmed Reza before his death was not understood by him and it was imperatively in law, either as a will or a deed of gift, according to Mahomedan law.

Mr. Advocate-General Paul opened the case for the Respondent. He took 5 days. He was at his best. It was a real treat to hear him. He treated the case as a whole. He pointed out that Hyder and Sufdar, who had not appeared, had been colluding with the Plaintiffs. He cited authorities to shew that the transaction ought to be taken out of the ruling in Gossain's case, that it was not a *benamie*, that the deed was a declaration by Ahmed Reza, that the 11 gundas was the separate property of Hyder Reza and Sufdar Reza, that the gift by Ahmed Reza to his wife was valid according to Mahomedan law, as possession by the husband has been held to be possession by the wife, and that the declaration of Ahmed Reza proved that the 11 gundas belonged to Hyder and Sufdar. The subject-matter of the suit was treated by Ahmed Reza as the property of the sons. Mr. G. Gregory followed Mr. Paul. The case took about a fortnight to consider their judgment, and on May 26 before delivering judgment, Mr. Justice Norris addressed Mr. Evans and said that if their Lordships had made up their minds that the gift to Afzulun Nissa by Ahmed Reza was valid according to Mahomedan law, Afzulun Nissa having predeceased Ahmed Reza, under the Shia law Ahmed Reza

would be entitled to ¼ of his wife's estate, Could the Plaintiffs succeed in getting their share out of Ahmed's ¼th on the present plaint? Mr. Evans argued that they could, and that the court ought not at that stage to dismiss the suit and compel the Plaintiffs to institute another suit to recover their share. Mr. Paul replied that the plaint as framed was entirely inconsistent with the point raised. Their lordships agreed with the Advocate-General and Mr. Justice Norris delivered a most able and exhaustive judgment, dismissing the appeal on the facts. The cost in the appeal court on both sides was between Rs. 3,000 to 4,000 a day, and the case lasted for seventeen days.

ROMANCE OF THE MUTINY.

A NEW MYTH EXPOSED.

IN a leading article, in the issue of the *Statesman* of the 23rd December, is the following statement with regard to the family of Wajid Ali Shah, the Ex-king of Oudh, which requires correction and contradiction. The statement I allude to runs thus: "There is one point that should be specially remembered in favor of Prince Kamal Kadr. His mother (Fakr Mahal) it was who saved the lives of Mrs. Orr and Miss Jackson in Lucknow during the mutiny. The story is told in most histories of the Lucknow siege and we need not recapitulate it. Suffice it to say that in no place in India did any of those faithful few who rescued European lives at the risk of their own, have a more difficult task to perform than the mother of Prince Kamal Kadr at Lucknow. Her Daroga (Wajid Ali) was awarded a lakh of Rupees for his conduct; but this lady at her own request has never received anything to this day." I am in a position to utterly deny the truth of the whole of this statement concerning the assistance rendered to Mrs. Orr and Miss Madeline Jackson and Miss Louisa Orr, and should much like to know in what histories of the events of the mutiny in Lucknow in 1857, it is stated that it was through the exertions of Fakr Mahal that the lives of the above mentioned ladies and child were saved. With regard to the circumstances to which the statement alludes, the letter of Mrs. Patrick Orr has already been quoted in these pages. But over and above all that, I have only about a fortnight ago had a conversation with one of the three ladies who were saved, and this is the information on this point she gave me.

We owed our safety and our lives (said the lady) solely to the kindness and exertions of Darogah Wajid Ali. With regard to Fakr Mahal it is my firm belief she would have had us killed but for his intercession and good offices and likewise, because she was too much engaged at the time with other more important state affairs. She caused the strictest watch to be kept over us so as in every way to preclude all possibility of our escape. During the whole time we were in captivity, we used to be daily visited and a report made to her that we were all three present. The escape of Miss Louisa Orr was effected in this manner. The child had been unwell with fever and a report to the effect had been conveyed to Fakr Mahal. It was soon after this that information was sent to Raja Maun Sing by Darogah Wajid Ali that advantage would be taken of this circumstance and that an endeavour would be made to effect the escape of the child at last. For this purpose a very brave but ugly woman, a *gwalin* of the name of Geendia, was induced to play a part. This Geendia was the wife of a follower of Darogah Wajid Ali. Everything having been prepared and Fakr Mahal's suspicions having been allayed by the constant reports of the ill-health of Miss Louisa Orr, early one morning, her face and hands being painted and she herself wrapped up in a sheet and a *rezai* thrown over her, she was placed on the shoulder of this woman who immediately set up crying and left the house and premises of the Darogah, who anxiously watched her progress from a window to see what would happen. He likewise sent two well-armed retainers to follow the woman at a distance. The woman passed several guards and sentries, acting her part to admiration and repeating to them the story that her child was dangerously ill and that she was going to a celebrated Hakeem for advice and medicine. The last guard she had to pass stopped her and insisted on seeing the child. The two retainers precipitately beat a retreat. But Geendia raised a loud cry and violently vituperated the men saying that they might if they liked undo the wrapping round her child but she was certain that the exposure to the chill early morning air would kill her out-

right and that the death of her child would be on their head. She did not appear to be anything else but the simple *gwalin* she represented herself to be. She simulated her grief and distress for the child so successfully that this guard also permitted her to pass without any further enquiry or investigation, and she then made her way to Raja Maun Sing's Head-quarters outside the city, without any more molestation, and delivered up her burthen in perfect safety. Miss Orr was then taken into the Raja's female apartments and dressed in an entire suit of native clothes, and on the first convenient opportunity conveyed to the British lines then before Lucknow.

Fakr Mahal, so far from affording them protection and genuine help, or aiding in the rescue of these three ladies, did her best to prevent them from escaping from the clutches of the rebels. So I do not understand how the *Statesman* on the part of Fakr Mahal can now claim a reward or pension for her, for an act of kindness in which she had neither hand nor part. On the contrary, it would behove the Government of India to search out the poor woman Geendia or, if she be dead, her heirs, and give them something. For, although Darogah Wajid Ali received one lac of Rupees for his part of the business, this poor woman, to the best of my knowledge and belief, never received one pice of the Indian Government for her heroic service.

ANDREW HEARSEY.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

HUMAYUN.

XIII.

At last Humayun was granted the favour of an interview with the Shah of Persia. The meeting was apparently on terms of perfect equality, and in every way suitable to his own grandeur and the dignity of his guest. However, about this affair, a stain rests on the character of the Shah of Persia. For, before he would enter into conversation with his refugee guest, he expressed his desire that Humayun should adopt the Persian cap. Such a desire, under the circumstances, was tantamount to a command. Humayun, with much grace, accepted his position and placed the cap on his head with an appropriate compliment to his host.

During his stay in Persia, Humayun had to submit to many indignities from the Persian monarch, and the sole reason for discourteous treatment was his being a Sunni. It has been stated that, wearied with the continued and marked slights he had to endure, he at last professed to have become a convert to the Shah's religious opinion. Such an act was, however, only a political move, for this profession released him, in a great measure, from the awkwardness of his position, for the Shah became more kindly in his treatment of his unfortunate and unwilling guest, and at last came to an agreement with him, and promised him the aid of 12,000 horsemen for the purpose of capturing Candahar, which, however, was to be added to Persian territory.

Humayun, after coming to such an arrangement with the Persian king, set out on his march for Candahar. It would be needless to enumerate the petty slights he had to endure, even up to the eve of his departure, owing to the variable temper of the Shah. On reaching Seistan, Humayun found that Tahmasp Shah had done more than keeping his promise, for there were 14,000 horsemen, under the command of Morad Mirza, the king's son, waiting his arrival. From this point, the troops marched straight on Candahar and besieged it, till the garrison were reduced to distress from want, and then Mirza Askari, the governor, was obliged to surrender. It is uncertain whether Humayun would have spared his captive brother's life, had not his aunt, Baber's sister, intervened and obtained a promise of pardon. But so bitter were the feelings that filled the mind of Humayun, just at this moment, so hardened were the affections of his heart, at the remembrance of his great sufferings, that, despite the promise of pardon, he treated his brother in a most unnatural way. Mirza Askari was subjected to many indignities, and was compelled to appear publicly with his sword hung round his neck, tendering his submission in the most humiliating forms. Afterwards, Humayun placed him by his side, in token of forgiveness and kindness. He also gave a great entertainment to celebrate the reconciliation. Alas! that this should have been only policy; and a policy of a very repugnant type. For, when festivity was at its height,

and all fears and suspicions allayed, certain documents were produced, written by Askari to Beloochee chiefs, and directing the apprehension of Humayun during his flight to Persia. Askari was made a prisoner on pretext of this old act of enmity, and was kept in chains for about three years. From this period, we find Humayun's life often stained by acts of gross cruelty.

According to agreement, Candahar was made over to the Persian. But shortly afterwards, Morad Mirza, the Persian prince and governor of Candahar, died suddenly. Humayun availing himself of this occurrence, obtained admittance into the city in the guise of a friend, and immediately with his men set upon the garrison, slaughtering many and making the rest prisoners. These prisoners he allowed subsequently to return to Persia, and he made extraordinary merit of the act. After the occupation of Candahar, Humayun did not tarry long in that city, but collected an army, and marched for Cabul, which city he entered in triumph, his brother Camran having fled through inability to resist him. At Cabul, Humayun recovered his son Akber, who was about three years of age. Humayun, if undisturbed by ambitious craving, might now have reigned in peace. But it seems he would risk all rather than be restricted in adding to his dominion. So, after a few months spent at Cabul, he marched to recover Badakshan. While he was at Badakshan, Camran returned, surprised Cabul, and once again obtained possession of the young Akber. Humayun, however, soon obliged him to quit that city, but had to meet him in battle more than once. Eventually, Camran fell into his hands. While at Cabul, Humayun committed many acts of cruelty, the chief of which was his putting all his prisoners to death in cold blood. He also put his cousin Yadgar Mirza to death, on bare suspicion. His grounds for suspicion were so slender, that the governor of Cabul refused to carry out the order, and another person had to be substituted. It is, therefore, pleasing to note, that he acted in perfect good faith towards Camran. He treated him with great kindness; and three of the brothers being now together, he released the fourth, Mirza Askari. A feast was given, when they *ate salt* together, and were, for the time, entirely reconciled.

XIV.

Not very long after the happy reconciliation of the brothers, Humayun became engaged in a war with the Uzbeqs in Balk. Camran, unfortunately for himself, as the sequel proved, was tempted to avail himself of such an opportunity and rebel against his brother. He marched on Cabul. In the first battle between the brothers, Humayun was defeated and nearly killed by a soldier, who had wounded him, and was about to strike again, when the king exclaimed, "You wretch! how dare you?" The stern look of Humayun so confounded the man, that he allowed his wounded antagonist to retire. Humayun fled from the field of battle with only eleven attendants. He was, however, soon in the field again, and, in a subsequent battle, forced Camran to flee for refuge, first to a Afghan tribe, and eventually into India, where false friends delivered him over to his brother, who, with subtle guile, received him graciously, and seated him on his right hand during entertainments given for three successive days. The punishment he meted out to his brother, after such a reception, was truly barbarous in its cruelty. He gave orders that Camran should be blinded. The operation was performed by the eyes being repeatedly pierced with a lancet. Camran bore the torture with great fortitude, until lemon juice and salt were squeezed into his eyes, when he exclaimed, "O Lord, my God! whatever sins I have committed have been amply punished in this world; have compassion on me in the next." Camran, now no longer dangerous, was permitted to go to Mecca, where he died shortly after.

India, as can well be imagined, was, at this period in a very disturbed state. Shir Shah, the successor of Humayun by right of conquest, was dead, and none of his lineage inherited his dominant abilities. There was now no keenly astute mind to plan, no firm hand to execute these wisely matured plans, nor to repress the turbulence or lawlessness of the many fighting races of India; to check by a seasonable display of power the daring attempts of ambitious men; and to mould all the diverse and conflicting elements present into a concrete mass, resulting in the greatest good to the many. Such being the state of matters in India, Humayun's

advisers urged him, over and over again, to attempt its reconquest. Such advice, however, was not for a long time suitable to his mood of mind; he could only think of India with a shudder, as it recalled only too vividly his many misfortunes and the great sufferings he had undergone in that country. But it happens, if we think of, or are forced often to think of any subject, our mind loses the first impression it received about the matter. So it proved in Humayun's case. By having Indian matters continually forced on his attention through the zeal of his advisers, he came gradually to dissociate India from the dread that harboured in his mind, and at last came to entertain seriously the question of its reconquest. And when arguments and omens seemed alike favourable, he set out from Cabul at the head of 15,000 horsemen. He moved with alacrity; successfully invaded the Punjab defeated the Governor, and took Lahore. At Sirhind, he engaged Secander, the usurper at Delhi, who had advanced to meet him with a large army. Humayun gained a decisive victory, and immediately took possession of Delhi and Agra.

Humayun was thus restored to his capital. But the greater portion of his dominions was still to be recovered, and

even what he had obtained, he did not live to enjoy. His death was most untoward and sudden. He had been walking on the terrace of his library at Delhi and was descending the stairs, which were on the outside of the building, and narrow, guarded simply by an ornamental parapet about a foot high. While descending, he heard the call to prayers, sounded from the minarets, and, as became a good Moslem, he stopped for the purpose of repeating the creed, and then sat down on the steps till the crier had finished. In endeavouring to rise again with the aid of the staff he carried, the staff slipped on the polished marble of the steps and precipitated him over the parapet. When taken up, he was insensible, but soon after recovered consciousness, yet the injury he had received was pronounced mortal, and he expired on the fourth day after the accident. He was forty-nine years old, and had been called king for twenty-six years, inclusive of the sixteen years of his banishment from Agra. We conclude the life-story of Humayun with a deep impression that it is one of the most remarkable histories extant, and it is one that will not only well repay perusal but affords us materials for much deep thought.

JAMES H. LINTON.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed tenders for supply of Miscellaneous Stores, during the quarter ending 30th September next, will be received by the Vice-Chairman at 2 P. M., on the 12th June, and will be opened by him there and then, in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend.

Forms of tender and list of Stores required, can be had on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,
Superintendent of Stores.

2nd June, 1888.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta,

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,
on Thursday, the 14th June 1888, at 3 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. Mr. Simmons to ask certain questions regarding the water-supply.
2. Mr. Cotton to move "that the Commissioners submit a respectful representation to His Excellency the Governor-General in Council praying that the orders communicated in the letter from the Government of India to the Government of Bengal, No. 489-R-T, dated 30th April 1888, may be reconsidered and that sanction may be accorded to a grant of two lacs of rupees available from the surplus funds of the Howrah Bridge to the Municipality as a contribution in aid of the proposed new road from the Bridge to Sealdah."
3. The Chairman to submit for information explanation by the Health Officer, with reference to the Resolution passed on his report for the quarter ending 31st March last, at the Quarterly Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 26th April 1888.
4. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 28th April and 5th, 12th and 19th May 1888.
5. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at Meetings held on the 25th April and 23rd May 1888.
6. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at Meetings held on the 12th April and 23rd and 31st May 1888.
7. The Chairman to lay upon the table Vital Statistics for the months of March and April 1888.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

8th June 1888.

NOW READY.

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Prince Mirza Mahomed Jah Ali Bahadoor ...	25
Hajee Umdoo Khan, of Dinapore ...	10
Total ...	59,937

Further subscriptions are invited, and will be duly acknowledged in the papers.

PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE,
AMIR ALI,
S. E. J. CLARKE,

Honorary Secretaries.

Calcutta, 1st June, 1888.

NOTICE.

Probate of the Last Will and Testament of Bhuggobutty Churn Mullick, late of No. 90-2, Cross Street, in the Town of Calcutta, Landholder, deceased, was, on the 6th day of June instant, granted by the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, in its Testamentary and Intestate Jurisdiction, to his widow, Sreemutty Poresh Soondery Dassee, the sole executrix named in the said Will.

SWINHOE AND CHUNDER,
Attorneys for the Executrix.

9, Old Post Office Street,
Calcutta, 7th June, 1888.

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BETWEEN

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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much more might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *parih*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Varanasi Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1888.

} No. 328

CONTEMPORARY LYRICS.

CARMEN MYSTICUM.

Dear Lord, since thou didst make the earth,
Thou mad'st it not for grief, but mirth ;

Therefore will I be glad,
And let who will be sad.

For if I load my life with care,
What profits me the buxom air,
And what the sweet bird's choir
Or heaven's azure fire ?

But if I cannot choose but weep,
Weeping I'll think I do but sleep,
Till thou shalt bid me wake
And triumph for thy sake.

Lord, as 'tis thine eternal state
With joy undimmed to contemplate
The world that thou hast wrought
As mirror for thy thought,

So every morning I would rise,
And offer thee for sacrifice
A spirit bright and clear
As the wide atmosphere.

For, Lord, since all is well with thee,
It cannot well be ill with me.

D.

REGINALD SHIRLEY BROOKS.

DIED THURSDAY, 10TH MAY 1888.

A Passing cloud obscures the summer sun,
And silence shrouds the laughter of the day,
For Death has claimed our best beloved one,
And Grief holds back the blossom of the May.
We miss the handsome presence and the mirth,
That lightened labour where he moved and spoke,
We feel the dull monotony of earth,
That he with wit and merry laughter broke.
Forgive to-day our poor attempt at jest,
Sorrow the gayest, lightest hearts will rend ;
And we must mourn our brightest and our best—
Our " Blobs," our brother, and our dearest friend.

TRANSLATIONS FROM THE PERSIAN OF OMAR KHAYYAM.

By Edward Fitzgerald.

Think, in this batter'd Caravanserai
Whose Portals are alternate Night and Day,
How Sultán after Sultán with his Pomp
Abode his destin'd Hour, and went his way.

They say the Lion and the Lizard keep
The Courts where Jamshyd gloried and drank deep :
And Bahráń, that great Hunter—the Wild Ass
Stamps o'er his Head, but cannot break his Sleep.

*I sometimes think that never blows so red
The Rose as where some buried Cæsar bled ;
That every Hyacinth the Garden wears
Dropt in her Lap from some once lovely Head.*

And this reviving Herb whose tender Green
Fledges the River-Lip on which we lean—
Ah, lean upon it lightly ! for who knows
From what once lovely Lip it springs unseen !

A Book of Verses underneath the Bough,
A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread—and Thou
Beside me singing in the Wilderness—
Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enow !

Some for the Glories of this World ; and some
Sigh for the Prophet's Paradise to come ;
Ah, take the Cash, and let the Credit go,
Nor heed the rumble of a distant Drum !

Look to the blowing Rose about us—" Lo,
Laughing," she says, " into the world I blow,
At once the silken tassel of my Purse
Tear, and its Treasure on the Garden throw."

And those who husbanded the Golden grain,
And those who flung it to the winds like Rain,
Alike to no such aureate Earth are turn'd
As, buried once, Men want dug up again.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE following is good news and would, we are sure, be more welcome to our readers without the snobbery of its presentation :—

" Her Highness the Maharani of Mysore was safely confined of a Prince at 8 A.M., this (June 5,) morning."

We wonder whether Maharajas drop manna for tears of joy, or sweat rose-water.

EMPEROR Frederick is no more. He quietly breathed his last yesterday at eleven in the forenoon.

ON the 8th it was reported from Berlin, that

" Differing from the Emperor Frederick's liberal views, Herr Von Puttkamer has resigned his post of Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, and Minister of the Interior. The Emperor has accepted the resignation."

THE Gaekwar of Baroda leaves Bombay on the 26th for Switzerland, accompanied by Colonel Jackson, Political Agent, Amreli, as Political officer on his tour, and 10 other persons including servants. The Maharani remains in India.

HIS Highness Seyyid Turki, Sultan of Muscat, died on 4th instant ; his second son Seyyid Feysal has assumed the Government.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

REUTER from Alexandria on the 8th telegraphs the dismissal of Nubar Pasha by the Khedive, in consequence of an altercation which took place in the Council.

Riaz Pasha has accepted the office of the President of the Council, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Justice.

A TELEGRAM from Aden reports that the native town of Berbera on the opposite coast of Somaliland has been entirely burnt down. Great distress exists among the native population. The Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 5,000 towards relief of the distress.

THE Home remittances from April 1 to June 9, amounted to £3,066,700.

THE following is from Burma, dated Rangoon 5th :—Upper Burma is reported to be generally quiet during last week. The news from Tavoy is that an attack was made on Nabule by 70 dacoits, on the night of the 27th May. The dacoits were driven off by 17 Gurkhas who were stationed there, with the loss of one Gurkha and a villager killed and 4 wounded. The rumour of the death of the Myook is unfounded.

MR. A. OGILVY, the manager of Tikari estate, is reported to have died from the effects of a fall from a dog-cart in town Gya.

MR. J. FRIZELLE, Judge of Rawalpindi, has been temporarily promoted to the Punjab High Court.

THE *Pioneer* announces a special loan by the Government of India for the defences of India, in advance of Gazette notification. The statement has since been denied by Sir John Gorst in the House of Commons.

IT has been decided to retain the Calcutta Mint.

HIS Highness the Maharaja of Vizianagram has made the princely donation of Rs. 15,000, to Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, for a house for the Indian Association. Where is the Baboo's National Fund?

THE Extra Assistant Commissioner of Rai Bareli convicted one Farquand Ali, "a Zemindar of some consequence in the district of Rai Bareli and the son of a Darogah who figured in the Mutiny," for mischief for felling trees and sentenced him to 15 days' imprisonment and Rs. 50 fine. There was an appeal, of course. But there was no Sessions Judge to take it up. He had gone on leave, and there was no person appointed to act the Judge, although the Deputy Commissioner had been *Gazetted* to discharge "the current duties of the Commissioner's Office." So the Zemindar had to rot in jail for eight long days before he could be set free on bail—pending appeal—by the Judicial Commissioner.

A HORRIBLE illustration of the effects of superstition is afforded by a case of murder in the Coimbatore District :

"Kalsinapen is said to have discovered hidden treasure two years ago, and he had the reputation in his village of a treasure-finder, and traded upon this by giving up work and supporting himself by borrowing money from the villagers, promising to repay them out of treasure he had found or might find. After some time the villagers got tired of waiting, and refused further loans. He had therefore to cast about for some means to make a real discovery. At last he took his female child, aged three years, to a garden in which there was an idol of Mooneswamy, and there sacrificed the child to appease the deity and enable him to recover the treasure he had found and lost, or to find other treasure. The body was found in front of the idol with the throat cut. The prisoner admitted killing the child, but pleaded temporary insanity."

That plea was, of course, his counsel's, rather than his own. The District Judge sentenced the misguided man to death and the High Court has confirmed the sentence. The justice of the conviction may be disputed, but the expediency of the sentence is above cavil.

THE Bengal High Court is evidently unwilling that there should be an English decision on their judgment in the reference in *Empress vs. Nilmadhub Mitter*. Accordingly, Mr. Justice Wilson made the following order on Monday :

"In the case of the *Empress* against Nilmadhub Mitter, who was convicted of murder, and sentenced to transportation for life, Mr.

Woodroffe moved on petition for a certificate, under section 41 of the Letters Patent or Charter, that this case was a fit one for appeal to the Privy Council. I have fully considered the matter, and consulted the other Judges before whom the question of law I reserved was argued and decided, and I think it clear that I must refuse the application. The principles upon which the Courts could act upon such matters were fully considered by the Bombay High Court in the case of *Queen-Empress vs. Pestonjee Dinshaw*, reported in 10 Bombay High Court Reports, p. 75. I fully accept the explanation of law given in that case by Chief Justice Westropp in his judgment, and I think, accepting this, I should be going quite outside, and far beyond, any of the authorities in any of the High Courts in this country, or the decisions of Her Majesty in Council, if I were to make the order now asked for. The application is therefore refused."

Fit ending of the force of judicial imbecility which the High Court has played in this ill-starred parricide's case !

THE Indian Political is always himself, whether a civilian or a military officer. The Ethiopian does not change his colour nor the leopard its spots. No more does the Indian diplomat drop his Indian characteristics by removal ever so far from the geographical limits of India. What else can we say in face of the information supplied by a correspondent to our contemporary of the *Rass Goffar* about the doings of the new British Consul at Zanzibar, Colonel Euan Smith ?

"Our correspondent relates in detail how the gallant Colonel has shown that he is ambitious of exacting signs of respect from British subjects within his jurisdiction. Among the instances quoted in proof of this assertion we are told that the Consul recently ordered two Khoja merchants whom he saw passing by without saluting him, to call at his house the next day. Accordingly, these gentlemen waited upon the gallant Colonel, when he wished them to explain why they had neglected to salaam him. They said they would have done so with pleasure ; but that he being new to Zanzibar, they did not recognise him. Colonel Euan thereupon ordered them to call upon him once daily for the space of a month, by which time, he is reported to have said, they would be able to know who he was. This is given as one of many other incidents of the kind."

TWO of the attorneys of our High Court have been removed by death—Baboo Brojonath Mitter and Mr. John Hart. The first was better known as Brojo master, having started life as a schoolmaster in the brilliant but short-lived national college inaugurated by the Wellington Square Dutt, in which he was a favourite of the late Captain D. L. Richardson. Like so many of our successful men, he abandoned schoolmastering for law. Passing as an attorney, he did not wait for the tardy influx of business in the great Calcutta Court, but sought opportunities for pleading in the country courts, in which he did well. The other came out to this country some thirty years back, and for the whole period of his Indian life made Calcutta his home. He was ready enough to undertake his share of public duties, and had been for a term an active Municipal Commissioner.

THE Health Officer has disclaimed any intention to offend the native Commissioners by his allusion to "African village" in describing the black town, and they are friends again.

THE heat has been excessive this week. The closeness of the atmosphere adds to our suffering by day and makes the night absolutely sleepless. Besides, we have a foretaste of the weather in Upper India—the burning loo.

THE difference between solar and lunar chronology led this week to a conflict between Oriental usage and the institutions of the British Indian Medes. In the *Gazetted* List of Holidays, the 12th and 13th June 1888 are assigned to the Mahomedan Eed-ul-Fatr. But the Oriental chronology of Fasts and Festivals is lunar, and the first appearance of the moon constitutes the Eed and is the signal for the religious observances of the occasion. It was expected this year that the moon would appear on Monday the 11th, and the Mahomedans on that ground demanded a holiday on that day. In the accommodating spirit of compromise which now prevails, the High and subordinate Courts were closed for the Mahomedans on Monday. The Mahomedan officers were excused non-attendance and Mahomedan cases were not taken up that day. The Chief Justice, availing himself of the two following days being General Holidays, and the Dussehera vacation falling on Tuesday the 19th, left Calcutta on Friday last week for Darjeeling and returns to town and duty on Wednesday next. Following the Chief Justice, the Chief Clerk left for the hills last Saturday, without formal leave.

UNDER Sec. 31 (j) Act VII of 1878 (the Indian Forest Act), the *Calcutta Gazette* publishes, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council, the following rules :—

1. No person shall in (such) protected forest, unless it be necessary in defence of the life or limb of himself or some other, kill or wound any elephant, or catch or attempt to catch elephants.
2. No person shall in such protected forest set snares or traps.
3. Nothing in the above rules shall be deemed to prohibit any act done with the permission in writing of the Conservator of Forests or of the Local Government.
4. Between the 1st April and the 30th September, both days inclusive, in each year, the killing of the following animals and birds is prohibited :—

Deer and antelope. Hare. Pheasant. Partridge.	Hill and sand grouse. Peafowl. Floricane. Junglefowl.
--	--

Also spur fowl, all ducks that breed in the country, grey duck, comb duck, pink-headed duck, large and small whistling teal, cotton teal, and gyal (*gano gavenus*.)

A COPY of Quentin Bauchard edition of "Daphnis and Chloe," bound by Dubuisson, and engraved with the arms of Mme. Pompadour, was sold at the Hotel Dronot for 7,000 fr. A second copy from the Ourches Chateau Giron and Burnet Library, realised 6,570 fr. A 15th century manuscript copy of "Petrarca" sold for 4,005 fr.

THE House of Commons have voted £2,500,000 for defence of the coaling stations.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE French are truly to be pitied. Just now at any rate their prospect is most gloomy. It is the same at Home as abroad—there is a singular dearth of the right men for the right places. Everywhere the unhappy spectacle is presented of a lot of commonplace adventurers engaged in petty squabbles for place and pelf and the gratification of vulgar vanities and personal jealousies. While a military malcontent is ready to plunge his country in revolution and ruinous war, the Colonies must be necessarily weak to a degree. In India they are copying the bad manners of the officials in the mother-country with a vengeance. It might be hazardous, but then the French are no power in India within the Ganges. Let them thank their British allies for the protection of their bits of possessions!

PONDICHERY has for the moment brought itself into prominence. M. Legay, the Directeur, assaulted Councillor Duchamp and was in return knocked down by Duchamp's son. There was a complaint for assault against the Directeur, which the Procureur-General refused to receive for want of evidence. M. Legay also proceeded against the Duchamps for insult and threatening language. The result was that Legay was fined one franc and an additional one for damages, while M. Duchamp was mulct in the sum of 200 frs. and the son in 50 frs.

THE Procureur-General himself had been under displeasure. Under orders of the acting Governor, he had directed the Court of Appeal to proceed against the proprietor of *Le Progress* for charging the Governor and other officials with official misconduct. A special Court and jury were ordered, and M. Sinnapouille de Condiney charged with criminal defamation. He made short work of it, however, by production of documentary evidence in support of his accusations. The case was abandoned on behalf of Government, and the Procureur-General was allowed to withdraw the case. The Governor then suspended the Procureur-General and ordered him to proceed to France at once and report himself to the Minister for the Colonies. A new Procureur was sworn in, but immediately after, a telegram was received from "Home" reinstating the late Procureur.

AT Imperial Vienna, Julia Metz, the accomplice of Castelman and Von Scheuer in the recent insurance frauds, has, after a patient trial, been sentenced to four years' penal servitude, and the money, £13,789, found in her possession, has been restored to the victimised insurance companies.

AT Gatchina, in an education institute for orphans, the students vented their dissatisfaction for their new director, General Zeeben, by assault

and battery on the General. They are suspected of Nihilism, and the matter has been taken up by the Police.

CIVILIZATION has lately been illustrated at its Capital by a remarkable duel between the representatives of Art and Culture :—

"The principals were M. M. Felix Dupins, the artist, and Habert the art critic. The cause of the duel was an article signed by M. Habert which appeared in the *Journal du XVIII^e rue Abondissement*, and gave offence to M. Dupins. M. Dupins accordingly sent his seconds, to demand a retraction. This was refused, and a meeting was arranged for the next morning. The weapons used were the pistol; at the second discharge M. Dupins received the ball in the intestines. Death was instantaneous. In the afternoon, by order of the Procureur of the Republic, M. Habert and the four seconds were arrested, but set at liberty a few days later. The deceased gentleman, who was 55 years of age, leaves a wife and family."

THE frivolity of the French is proverbial. But their blasphemy is no less striking, specially for a people still for the most part Catholic. They are now building in Paris what they irreverently call the Tower of Babel—a huge iron structure lifting up its head to the skies. It will be the speciality of the coming Exhibition.

ANOTHER colossus of scientific industry is a huge ship for sailing in the air which the French aeronaut, M. Jovis, is making, at a cost of more than a lac of Rupees, (£8000) for a scientific voyage across the Atlantic from New York to Europe. This monster balloon will measure 25,000 metres and weigh 4500 pounds avordupois and carry, with rigging apparatus and a crew of five, about the same weight.

WE publish elsewhere the judgment of Mr. Justice Trevelyan in the Jain Case. The judgment cannot be satisfactory as settling the question of widow's succession, in preference to the son's. It has been appealed against. Suruj Kumari Bibi has been unfortunate in her quest of justice, at least a regular hearing of the point of law raised by her. She tried in other ways to establish her claim in the High Court, but she has not advanced her right a step. We propose shortly to give full particulars of the litigation in which she has involved herself.

THE *Pioneer* informs the public that the "Government of India will not interfere in any way with the Calcutta Municipal Bill, as they have quite accepted the principles embodied in that measure, which they carefully watched from its inception to passing." But what about the Statute difficulty raised? There may be nothing in it, after all, but then the High Court has shown itself full of promises, and the native population is just in the mood for engaging Mr. Woodroffe! He will, if duly paid, any day drive a four-in-hand through any Act or Regulation, Code or Parliamentary Statute, or any law, adjective, substantive, verbal, adverbial, participial, prepositional, or interjectional, with a dilettante bench admiring.

THE Americans always told Mathew Arnold that what they valued was news and this their papers gave them, until the Apostle of Light and Sweetness lost all patience and his latter quality, and made reply—"Yes, news for the servants' hall." Just so! All sorts of gup and gossip, the indifferent and bad predominating—the most impudent travellers' stories—fabulous discoveries—mendacious narratives of moving accidents by flood and field and exploits of impossible heroism—accounts of

Creatures that Adam never knew—

staggering marvels of every description—are among the everyday sensations of American journalism.

The following looks like the concoction of a crack Yankee contributor of the "latest marvels," though there is no inherent improbability in the account :—

"A remarkable weather-wise plant is now said to be at the Jubilee Flower Show in Vienna. The proprietor of the plant says it belongs to the family of the sensitive plants, but is so extremely meteorometric that it not only moves if touched, but will close its leaves forty-eight hours in advance of any change in weather. It also foretells rain and wind, storms and 'set fair,' earthquakes and other subterranean movements, and is to be sold for £6."

And very cheap, we should think, for the price—in India at any rate. If Sir Charles Elliott's Commission had known of it, they would surely have recommended the purchase to the Government of India by way of a substitute for the Meteorological Department. A number of these wise plants might be maintained at our ports and chief towns, with hardly any expense and to greater profit than the human weather-cocks—we mean the state *savants*—who are so profusely weather-wise—after the event.

It is never too late to learn, and we congratulate Europe on having lately made two important discoveries, namely, that milk should be boiled before taking, and that it is better to boil drinking water. And now they have found out at last that the poison conveyed by human teeth is one of the most annoying that they have to deal with. A medical man writes to the *Medical Register* :—

"I have under my attention severe and most complicated cases of blood poisoning in which the patient had but slightly abraded the hand in the course of a fight by striking the knuckles against the teeth of his opponent. I have known hands thus poisoned only saved from amputation by the application of all the resources of science."

Of course any Hindu or Mussulman old housewife might any day have taught your men of science and research of the West, all these ruths. Some day they will yet learn that the bite of tigers is particularly poisonous. We can imagine the blank astonishment with which Professor Wood-Mason of the Museum—the leading naturalist in India—will receive this announcement. But wide and minute as is his knowledge of the beasts of the fields and fowls of the air, and even the infinite forms of life in water down to the depths and bottom of the deep sea—which he has lately been dredging—there are more things in Heaven and Earth than are dreamt of in his philosophy.

By way of contrast to the case, mentioned in our last, of the modest Canadian girl who sued the wretch who presumed to kiss her, we present to our readers an American Amazon who righted her own wrong:—

"A great sensation has been caused in Corrolton, Ohio, by the public whipping of Charles Butler by Miss Jennie Fisher. Butler is the son of a prominent business man, and has persistently sought the acquaintance of Miss Fisher, who is one of the leading society young ladies of Corrolton. It is said that Miss Fisher repelled the advances of Butler, who sought revenge by standing in his father's store as Miss Fisher was passing, and whistling 'Chippie get your hair cut' and calling her his 'birdie.' He repeated the performance several times and it seems just once too often. One evening Butler was standing in the post-office with about two hundred other persons waiting for the distribution of the evening mail when Miss Fisher entered. Butler was just beginning his roundelay when Miss Fisher drew a whip from beneath her cloak and attacked her persecutor, thrashing him vigorously over the head and shoulders. Butler retreated followed by his assailant who still plied the lash. The crowd hissed Butler and cheered Miss Fisher with remarks such as 'Give it to him,' 'Served him right,' etc. Butler finally escaped and Miss Fisher coolly put away her whip and returned home."

The fellow was undoubtedly served right, but we confess, though admiring her pluck, we do not like the *fellee*. (We really must be allowed this coin of our own, so handy and pat. Why should not the greatest annexander among languages adopt a term that it distinctly wants?) We may even respect her, but not love. Least of all, of the bluest Brahman blood as we are, with a *carte blanche* to marry to any extent, could we think of taking such a wife. She cannot be beautiful, and we are afraid she is not amiable. Accidents will occur in the best regulated households, and then she might be dangerous! Besides, quarrels are a condition *sine quonon* of domestic felicity. But what hope of the ghost of an altercation in a household presided over by such a grey mare? In the presence of such a spouse, domestic disagreement will partake of the nature of Irish reciprocity—all on one side.

WE read—

"The Italian papers are full of gossip about the King of Sweden's visit to Rome. His simplicity took all the courtiers by surprise. King Humbert put four State carriages at his disposal—King Oscar only used them once. His experiences at the Vatican have been in a way unparalleled. He is the first crowned head whom Leo XIII. has received. Papal etiquette lays down that if a King on arriving at Rome does not visit the Vatican before the Quirinal he will not be received by the Holy Father. The rule is relaxed in the case of Protestants; but if the King of Sweden had come to the Vatican in one of King Humbert's State carriages, his reception might have been quite different. As it was it has furnished a new precedent; not so much for the reception by the Pope as by his guest. The King of Sweden kissed the Pontiff on both cheeks. Such a salute was quite irregular. Long usage had established the fashion of merely kissing the hand. In the case of Pio Nono it was broken by the President of the United States. General Grant merely shook hands with the Pope, and said, 'How do you do, Sir?'"

Etiquette is of course only for the weak or the accommodating. Republican *hauteur* will none of it. Grant in particular was a sulky man—an American Louis Napoleon without French polish. We should not have been surprised if he had substituted "old man" for "Sir." But what did our old world Scandinavian prince mean by going to the other extreme—the gush of imprinting kisses on both cheeks of His Holiness the Vicegerent of Christ on earth?

ENGLAND has just lost her greatest wit—in the old sense—in Mathew Arnold. The ruling passion strong in death, his very last will is a fine example of wit, whose soul is brevity. The testament is terse as an epigram, to wit—"I leave everything of which I die possessed to my wife, Frances Lucy Arnold." The will, which is dated July 21, 1862, has been proved, and letters of administration granted to Mrs. Arnold. The personality was certainly not too bloated for a modern poet, being sworn at £1,040-17-9.

ONE Michell Carroll, aged 40, a workingman at Sydney, New South Wales, has surrendered himself for a crime committed by him in England seventeen years ago. He has given a circumstantial account of how he there struck Jane Maria Clousien, a girl of 19, with a plasterer's hammer from the effects of which she ultimately died, with recovering consciousness enough to describe her murderous assailant. Of course, the murderer was never discovered. But now, at the end of the Earth, after the lapse of an age, he comes of his own accord to give himself up to that justice he has so successfully evaded so long. The moral is striking. Murder will be out, and Crime is its own exceeding great chastisement. Wrong-doing works out its own punishment. To have killed a fellow creature in cold blood, works like madness in the brain. What a purgatory must have this man passed through these seventeen years! He could not stand it any longer. Life is the greatest possible torture for him. He seeks to be free by accepting the quietus of punitive law.

WE present the following to the friends of Moulvi Deen Mohammad in the press :—

"No. 457.

From the Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal. To Moulvi Deen Mohammad.

Dated Fort William the 6th April 1866.

SIR,--In reply to your letter dated the 27th ultimo, I am directed to say that after what has occurred, the Lieutenant-Governor is unable to hold to you any hopes of re-employment as a Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate at any future time. It, however, was not intended to prevent your employment in any other Department the head of which may wish for your services on a full knowledge of the circumstances which led to your removal from the Subordinate Executive Service of Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) J. GEOGHEGHAN,

Offg. Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal."

MR. T. M. KIRKWOOD, of Chittagong fame, has added another feather to his cap. The present is in connection with a theft case which he had to try as Judge of Patna. A girl named Boodhia, aged 12, caste Gwalin, resident at Mouzah Purana, Dinapore, a labourer, charged one Gurucharan Dusadh with theft of a *batlohi* and a *loti* from her house in her absence. A constable and two neighbours arrested the accused with the articles. The Jury ultimately returned a unanimous verdict of not guilty, without propounding or endorsing any theory of what really happened. The Judge suspected that the constable "having spotted the accused as an old offender, arrested him and then set to work to get up a case against him, which he did with the assistance of the complainant who may possibly be in his keeping." To substantiate that theory in pursuit of justice, the girl was asked whether she had at any time known any man. The girl gave a positive denial. The Judge apparently to satisfy his stupid conscience that he was not unnecessarily prejudiced against her, and possibly to test her veracity, inflicted on her—a mere complainant—the deep and lasting humiliation of a medical examination. As if to emphasise the outrage, a Mahomedan, Assistant Surgeon Akbar Khan, was told off for that duty—if duty that can be called which has no justification in law or common sense. The examination was made, the girl could not but submit to it. The result was that Akbar Khan was not sure she ever had sexual intercourse. The girl has since been excasted by a *Punchayet*. But *Punchayet* or no *Punchayet*, she is certainly degraded for the rest of her natural life, scarcely begun. The Judge still holds his place, of course, and may expect to be ere long translated to a more agreeable situation. He had well laid the foundations of a solid reputation in Chittagong; he was removed to a better climate, and now he has consolidated his fame at the capital of Behar. His way to the High Court is clear. What though the people burn with shame and indignation, the Kirkwoods, Posfords, Larminies, Beameses, Moseleys, and Taylors, are masters of the situation. The Empire is for its Covenanted Civil Service.

JOSE DE SOUZA, in the columns of the *Eastern Herald*, whimpers in four stanzas about "My Eurasian Girl." People in love do not usually hiff and coo in the public thoroughfare, yet Jose as a lover is singularly wise—in his generation. He does not love beneath him, nor above. Let him, by all means, stick to his Eurasian Girl. Nothing like equality in affection. There will be no bitterness or harm of any kind if the love matures into marriage. His poetry is indeed very creditable. If it will not

Take the prisoned soul

And lap it in Elysium.....

it is probably equal to seize the trembling soul of a Souza or a Silva, and tenderly lap it on the breast of "my Eurasian Girl." The sentiment has of course the usual exaggeration of love-lorn bard, be he Eurasian or Briton or Baboo. Perhaps, Jose would have better confided the following stanza to his *inamorata's* ear or confined it to her private album:—

They may talk of your English beauties so fair,

With azure blue eyes, and hair,

Skin white as marble, and flaxen curl,

They cannot eclipse my Eurasian girl.

We should like to have Jose's English acquaintances' opinion of that. He is quite welcome to sing and dance singing—

When I think of my angel, I'm all in a whirl,

For I'm the slave of my Eurasian girl.

Just so! He is literally true, too, when he says of his girl, "Brown is her skin," and he may be believed when he protests that it is "like soft velvet so fine." But to declare

She is a beauty, with a heart that's sincere,
and that

"In her every virtue and grace combine,"

strikes many people as bathos, we are afraid.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1888.

RECENT HISTORY OF CENTRAL INDIA.

AN ILLUSTRATION OF IMPERIAL GOOD FAITH.

THE last three years were an eventful period in the contemporary humdrum history of Native Central India. During those years, the Local British Government of the extensive territory continued in the strong hands of Sir Lepel Griffin, a Civilian of great capacity, who had long distinguished himself in the Punjab Secretariat, and had done good service in difficult political charges and delicate negotiations. But great changes occurred in the *personnel* of many of the Native Jurisdictions within the territorial limits of that eminent knight's sway. The two greatest Native Sovereigns of Central India—greatest for character and prestige as for the extent, resources, status, historic interest, and general importance of their states—in the middle of June, 1886, died, as if by mutual agreement, within three days of each other. In another state, only second in importance, headed—as by a law of Nature though probably Art has as much to do with the phenomenon,—by a female sovereign, the male ruler *de facto* having, by a long course of abuse and villainy, compromised himself, was removed by the determined pressure of the British Government. These events necessarily caused changes, which special circumstances made more extensive than they, ordinarily or otherwise, need have been. Similar events and incidents have occurred in other parts with similar results. In such a wide tract, broken into so many principalities, there must, in almost any given year, be room for such successions and dispositions. They were particularly notable during the last two years, and particularly fruitful. Nature and Chance gave the Political Agency some fine opportunities, and they were utilised to the utmost.

Besides the deaths of the late Maharajas Holkar

and Sindhia, in the middle of 1886, the old Raja of Kothi, in Baghelkund, expired and was succeeded by his eldest son, while the Chief of the petty state of Gaurihar, in the neighbourhood of the British cantonment of Nowgong died, leaving no heir.

Independent of death, the chief political events of the period were the restoration, by our Government, of the Fort of Gwalior to the Maharaja Sindhia, and abandonment of the British cantonment of Morar, the disgrace of the Nawab Consort of Bhopal, the withdrawal of high criminal powers from the Maharaja of Bijawar, the appointment of a successor to the chiefship of Gaurihar, and, we may add, the exhuming of the Gwalior secret treasure and its transfer to the British treasury as a loan. As, at one time, doubts were freely expressed whether the heir of the late ruler of Indore would be allowed to succeed to his father's powers, although he might be recognised as the reigning Holkar, the investiture of Maharaja Sivaji, too, may be reckoned a welcome event of great significance. It shows in a favourable light the temper of our present ruling authorities. A more crucial test of temper is afforded by the Gaurihar succession. It is not easy, in these days, with repeated disavowals of the policy of Annexation staring you in the face, and with members of Parliament hungering for distinction, to swallow and "digest" big game in the shape of a large wellknown and rich kingdom. But the absorption of an obscure and insignificant bit of a *jaghir* like Gaurihar, of which few even in Central India have ever heard, would scarcely attract notice. It is true that the Chief of Gaurihar obtained from Lord Canning that charter of safety of the Native States, the adoption *sanad*. But the terms of that *sanad* do not make for the maintenance of the chiefship in every variety of circumstances, under all possible contingencies. That instrument simply repeats to the Jaghirdar of Gaurihar, in March 1862, the assurance given orally by the Viceroy in person to the assembled Princes and Chiefs at the Grand Durbar at Cawnpore in December 1859, that, "on failure of direct heirs, the British Government will permit and confirm any adoption of a successor, made by yourself or any future Chief of your State, that may be in accordance with the ancient custom of your family." But here the elementary conditions were wanting. As the fates would have it, there was not only no issue of the body, but no legal son of any kind. There was failure of adoption over and above failure of direct heirs, failure of art as well as Nature. Such a double failure is irremediable. It is a hopeless case of Lapse, and there is nothing left under the circumstances but for the doomed state to be absorbed in the vast sea of the immediate possessions of Her Britannic Majesty in India. But the Paramount Power has ceased to be covetous of the lands of its dependents. Its mercy steps in to make up deficiency when their rights fail. It interprets its obligations in a liberal spirit. In fact, as in matters of graver import, the spirit saves where the letter kills. It was certainly on reliance on this spirit of British liberality, that the late Chief of Gau-

Holloway's Pills.—The ills of life are increased tenfold by the mode of life so many have to lead; most especially is this the case amongst the toilers in our factories and huge workshops of the manufacturing districts whose digestions become impaired and nervous systems debilitated by the protracted confinement and forced deprivation of healthy out-of-door exercise. The factory workers may almost be said to have diseases of their own, readily amenable, however, to treatment if not allowed to proceed unchecked. Holloway's Pills are the most effectual remedy ever discovered for the cure of liver and stomach complaints, as they act surely but gently, regulating the secretions without weakening the nerves or interfering with the daily work.

rihar did not care to adopt. Rao Gajadhar Pershad did not die suddenly, but had been lingering for a considerable time before he, at length, succumbed on the 2nd March 1887. He had had ample notice of the event, and abundant leisure for appointing a successor. He did not take heed nor utilised his opportunity. One may well wonder. There was a two-fold reason of the greatest possible weight for making provision. It was not only necessary to give the state a successor, but also to leave a legal son to perform those services after his death so essential to the salvation of his soul. Yet he did not adopt. We can only guess at the cause of such a neglect. As a young man—he was only 33 when he died—he hoped to recover and have a son of his own blood. Adoption is but the *dernier resort* of the effete and old. As for succession to the *gadi*, he probably never feared that the great Power that protected him and had protected his family for several generations, would covet his little *jaghir*: he had seen that larger principalities had been spared. He was right. Like many of his rough and simple brother chiefs of Central India and Rajwara, he may have laid scant store by the subtle theory of the Rishis, of vicarious sacrifice to the manes by constructive sons. His friends too were equally sure of British generosity and did not vex him in his last days to appoint a successor. Their confidence has been justified. The Viceroy has found them a Chief by selection in the family. The policy and practice of Government are so often misrepresented on no reason or on insufficient appearances, that it is a pleasure to us to dwell on an illustration which has attracted no notice.

The other events will be noticed at leisure, hereafter.

THE RETURN TO THE FOLD:

OR

HINDU SOCIAL DISCIPLINE.

EXPERIENCE keeps a dear school, but fools will learn in no other, and scarce in that. Another stray sheep that has, for the last few months, been casting a longing, lingering look behind, has, at last, made up its mind to re-enter the fold—the recent abortive attempt at re-suscitating a socially dead Barendra—Dr. B. L. Bhaduri of this town, notwithstanding. It is a fine sheep, rich in wool and gram-fed meat, and offers a fine subject for rehabilitation, after the usual shearing. Following the example of a neighbour of ours and *sala* of Mr. Bonnerjee's the Barrister, a well-known county pleader and a Roy Bahadoor into the bargain, had paid a clandestine visit to Europe. But astute as lawyers ever are, there is a deficiency of honour in this Iron Age. On the contrary, the spirit of mischief is abroad, and worthy Baboo Sib Chunder Banerjee was betrayed by a sneaking signaller in the person of an unworthy Brahmo. The secret out, Hindu society proved a disturbed hornets' nest to the successful pleader. Neither his ingenuity, bred of practice of the lower courts, nor his Rai Bahadooree diplomacy, availed Baboo Banerjee. He had to pay the price of rashness that he had been evading, and pay he did dearly for his whistle. That flying trip to England, which he could hardly enjoy under the constant anxiety of suspicion at home or of discovery by fellow-Indians abroad, and which was of too short a duration for any useful result to himself, was the direful spring of woes unnumbered. His return was the signal for the enemy to prepare for war. For sometime he saved himself by Fabian strategy and a policy of

masterly inactivity. But it was only staving off the evil day. At length he had to take a distinct step as member of Hindu society. As such, he could not postpone his daughter's marriage indefinitely. That was the opportunity for the beggars and cut-throats who abound in our midst. The cormorant, whose son had the luck to be engaged to an educated and well-to-do pleader's accomplished daughter, not content with fleecing Baboo Sib Chunder to the tune of some Rs. 14,000 before allowing the celebration of the wedding, followed up the phlebotomy with the meaner persecution of his own daughter-in-law as well as her family, by detaining her at his house, a prisoner as it were. She had to be heavily ransomed for liberty to visit her own parents. A blackmail of Rs. 2,500 was levied for two occasions on which she went to her father's house. But this was only one out of a thousand distractions and insults and losses to which the discovery of his visit to Europe subjected poor Baboo Sib Chunder. The social storm—in a teapot, as it proved after all, but none the less trying to its victim on that account while it lasted—which was raised at Bhowanipore, we duly noticed at length at the time. But though the immediate difficulty was tided over, he still remained under a ban, and was reminded at every step of his unfortunate position. No wonder that, under the incessant and unusual strain, his health broke down—the health (most pitiful to think) of his mind in particular. His reason gave away. By dint of will, as soon as unmistakable symptoms became manifest, he came down to Calcutta and placed himself under proper treatment. Thank God, he is all right now.

All right, did we say? Alas! that in his circumstances was out of the question almost. If he managed to escape total wreck on one coast, the dark scowling rock on the other stared him full in the face. His recovery was perfect, but his relief was partial. Slender could be his comfort while he lay under the evil eye of his own proper society. He regained the integrity of his mind, only to be reminded of unhappiness that had driven him mad. *That* had not been determined, however. His disease only was cured, but its cause was not removed. Like a wise man he set himself to cut the root of all the evil. He would not only not brood over his past wrongs, but he would once for all free himself from the liability of those injuries which had proved so disastrous. He must set himself right with society, whatever the cost. So resolved, he has entered into the matter with his usual zeal and liberality. Now he is in earnest to recover his old position, he cannot be long in succeeding. If the Rai Bahadoor feels his isolation sorely, the Hindu Society—of Bhagalpur at any rate—misses him a good deal. We hope no unnecessary difficulties will be interposed in any quarter. We can have no respect for those who change their principles oftener than their shirt. Still less patience have we with those who make a business of punctiliousness, whose motto indeed is—

We don't believe in principle.

But oh! we *do* in interest.

It would be a pity if so useful a member of society as Baboo Sib Chunder were allowed to remain ex-casted to the end of the chapter, specially as he has repented and mended his manners and abandoned his cherished Eutopia.

Who by repentance is not satisfied,

Is nor of heaven, nor earth, for these are pleas'd.

By penitence th' Eternal's wrath's appeas'd.

To be sure, re-introduction into society is no joke. Heaven and Earth—hell too shall we add?—will have to be moved. But then Rai Bahadur is equal to the sacrifice. Thanks to the friendly exertions of Baboo Bunkim Chunder Chatterjee, the Pandits of Bhatpara have, by hook or by crook, been pressed into service. By the way, Baboo Bunkim Chunder, who only the year before last, said in the *Prachara*, that one might be a *Gokhaduk*—beaf-eater—and yet a Hindu, has, along with his Trans-hooglian hoary-headed neighbour, Baboo Bhudeb Mookerjee, turned over a new leaf and become a Hindu of Hindus, the latter, who is now at Benares, in saccloth and ashes, having resolved upon spending the rest of his life in that holy city, the world forgetting—by the world forgot, living and moving and having his being at the feet of Bhaskara Nanda Swamy, whose *chela* he has become. For once the poet was wrong when he said,

At thirty, man suspects himself a fool,
Knows it at forty, and reforms his plan.

With the Pandits of Bhatpara at his back, it will not be very difficult for Baboo Sib Chunder to propitiate the gods of Navadwipa. Indeed, a rumour is on the wind that Pandit Madhu Sudan Smritiratna has already assured him that the dons of Navadwip (Nuddea) will not leave a Nuddeate—for such Baboo Sib Chunder is—in the cold shade.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

XV.

AKBAR.

It is with much diffidence that one undertakes to sketch, however lightly, the life of Akbar; he was such a many-sided man, resembling in some respects, yet nearly superior in all, the great Napoleon. Akbar was a man with great natural gifts, which were cultivated by him with assiduous industry, till he attained a position far above the men of his time. The great attractive feature in the life-story of Akbar, is to see a man of such transcendent abilities so truly humble, and so full of generous sympathy for his kind. Akbar sat on his throne as a father of his people. Let us search in any clime, the chronicles of the lives of kings, let us read records glossed over by venal partiality, yet rarely will we find a recorded history of a life so truly great, so simply noble. Of Akbar we can say, he was a good man—a tribute of praise of much weight for a man in his position. Akbar seemed entirely free from that failing of little minds, jealousy. The acts and doings of Akbar offer not only a lesson of wisdom for the people, but especially for the rulers of to-day. From every department of the State, during Akbar's governance, Englishmen of to-day, if they can dissociate themselves from their insular prejudices, may reap valuable lessons. There was no red-tape system in Akbar's days, and the empire threw all the better for the want of it. Look at Akbar's excise system? Can the present Abkari system for a moment compare with it? Look at Akbar's revenue system, a system which laid its finger on the evil the rayyets suffer most from? Akbar's legislative acts were no crude emanations. So suitable are they to the habits of the people, and so fully do they meet their needs, that, per force, we are obliged to wonder, that the originator of them could have existed at such a period and in such a country; a country that hitherto had been selfishly torn by faction, each man, with his partisans, seeking the good of the individual or the few, in opposition to the good of the many. The life-story of Akbar shows us the many palpable mistakes the present rulers of India have made, and are repeating; and all of which owe their origin to fatuous prejudice, from a belief that nothing can add to the knowledge already acquired at the feet of professors in Western lands. The theories propounded by these professors are not only deemed unassailable, but likewise suitable to all parts of the world, and to all conditions of life. The governing a vast empire, whose peoples are marked by diversity and are almost, in their lives and thoughts, the opposite of the English people,

from a single office, small in comparison, in London, is the natural growth of these prejudices and suppositions. Had India been governed in India, even by Englishmen, the history of the present time would have been vastly different. India owes many and tangible benefits to British rule, which I fully appreciate, and would never dream of closing my eyes to, but what one feels bound to complain about, is, that, by the peculiar—I had almost written absurd—system of governance, many, if not most, of these benefits, are unappreciable, as the expected results are choked; every little or great indulgence to the peoples of India is so hampered by what seem, as it were, after thoughts, that our attention is directed towards these hands until we almost lose sight of the gifts. In Akbar's days, it was not so: the indulgences came to the people at first hand, and the most simple could understand the source and the reason thereof; hence they were always fully appreciated.

Akbar, called the great and the heaven illuminated, the man who raised the rule of his dynasty almost to its pinnacle of glory, was born in adversity, and reared in captivity. Yet, these early misfortunes seem to have left no evil traces, for he was most engaging in his manners, and most humane in his disposition. As regards humanity, he soared far above the men of his time, as he was also above them in his subjection to his reason; he hardly ever allowed passion to obtain a mastery over judgment, though he was often severely tested. This Akbar is the one ruler of Pre-British times, whom we can sincerely commend. In personal appearance, Akbar was a strongly-built handsome man, with unmistakable kingly carriage, and was endowed with great physical strength and activity, showing exuberant courage even in his amusements, as in taming unbroken horses and elephants, and in rash encounters with tigers and other wild beasts. Gifted with such a disposition, to which was coupled a passionate love of glory, he yet founded his hopes of fame at least as much on the wisdom and liberality of his Government, as on its military success. In his youth, he indulged in wine and good living, but early became sober and abstemious. A very small portion of his time was spent in sleep; and he frequently passed whole nights in those philosophical discussions which he loved so much. He took great pleasure in witnessing fights between animals, and in all exercises which required a display of strength and skill; but hunting afforded him most pleasure, especially was this so when he was engaged in destroying tigers, or capturing herds of wild elephants, as these occasions gave scope for the enjoyment of adventure and severe bodily exertion. He once rode from Ajmir to Agra—220 miles—in two days, and made many similar journeys on horseback. He was a famous walker and was known to have walked thirty or forty miles in a day—a marvellous feat for a king, and in an Indian climate. He underwent fatigue merely for the pleasure of the exercise, showing how sound his constitution must have been. Although he was constantly engaged in wars, and although he made greater improvements in civil government than any other king of India, yet, by his talents for the despatch of business, and by a judicious distribution of his time, he always enjoyed abundant leisure for study and amusement.

JAMES H. LINTON

Official Paper.

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN'S PROTEST.

From—Sir Lepel Griffin, K.C.S.I., Agent to the Governor-General for Central India,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

Dated Indore Residency, 28th January 1888.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 154-I., dated 12th January 1888, in which you convey the decision of the Governor-General in Council on my letter No. 109-P.-579 of 9th November 1887, requesting that the Government will criminally prosecute and adequately punish the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* and other newspapers, which have, for many months, been publishing false and malicious libels on me, on the Government I serve and represent in Central India, and on Colonel H. E. Ward, the Minister of Bhopal, in connection with the official action which has been taken to purge that State from oppression, and degrade and punish its tyrant.

2. You inform me that the Governor-General in Council, after careful consideration of my representations, have decided that it is neither necessary nor expedient, in the interests of the Government of India, to publish the correspondence relating to Bhopal affairs or to institute a criminal prosecution against the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. You are further directed to say that the Governor-General in Council is confident that the policy of the Government needs no vindication against attacks such as those I have brought to its notice; and His Excellency the Viceroy fully agrees with me in thinking that I can personally afford to treat them with indifference.

3. Against this decision of the Governor-General in Council I venture, with the utmost respect, but most energetically, to protest, on grounds of law, of equity and of policy, and I ask the Government, after a consideration of these further observations, to either enforce the law of the land which is violated with impunity, or publicly and officially to express their full confidence in and their approval of my acts in Bhopal.

4. Seeing that the Governor-General in Council has decided that the interests of the Government of India do not make a criminal prosecution either necessary or expedient, I would base my application on more personal grounds, and ask that such steps be taken as may clear my honour from attacks made upon me. I have before said that I care little for hostile criticism, and I readily allow that the abuse of the seditious and bought press of Bengal is the best proof of the rectitude of the person they attack, as their praise is, in the eyes of honest men, the just condemnation of him who deserves it. But there is a limit to the tolerance of criticism; and that limit is passed when, instead of the honest denunciation of a public man and his measures, an official is accused of every form of tyranny, meanness, corruption and oppression, through months and even years, while the Government makes no effort to defend him in the eyes of the world, or to punish his malicious detractors, who are paid for their libels in the same manner as is an assassin for a dagger thrust in the back of an enemy.

5. I would invite the Governor-General in Council for a moment to consider the analogy which Ireland furnishes.

The Government there are exposed to odium and abuse because they have wisely resolved to uphold and enforce the law, recognizing that this is the first duty of a civilized administration, and if it be neglected society relapses into barbarism. Not only do they uphold the existing law, but finding that it is insufficient to meet the circumstances of the case, they have had recourse to special and more drastic legislation. If it be said that the libellous abuse of the Irish Nationalist press is not ordinarily the subject of criminal prosecution, I would reply that the Irish Government has, at present, quite enough on its hands in the suppression of violent crime and open treason, and does not care to be diverted from its direct path by actions for libel. When active treason has been crushed, criminal libels against honourable officials will doubtless receive attention and condign punishment.

6. But what is far more relevant to my argument is that the members of the English Government attacked by the nationalistic press, whether Mr. Gladstone or Sir George Trevelyan or Mr. Balfour, have and freely exercise the right of private defence in the press and on the public platform, while members of the Government to which they belong or which they serve, from the Prime Minister downwards, defend and support them energetically and in the face of the world, in and out of Parliament.

7. If we turn to India a very different spectacle is presented. The only persons to whom full liberty or rather license is allowed are the hired bravoës of the press, and officials whose services entitled them to honour are condemned to a silence which is misunderstood, while exposed defenceless to all ignoble abuse. The Government, when appealed to for protection, declines to enforce its own law, which is daily defied, which it would seem bound by every consideration of right and self-preservation to uphold, and the solemn maintenance of which is the chief reason for the existence of all civilized Governments.

8. I take my stand on the law of the land, and I ask that it may be enforced. A single malicious libel it may be convenient for the Government to ignore or refuse to prosecute, but these of which I write may be counted by hundreds, and I doubt whether a number of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has been issued for months on which criminal proceedings might not be successfully instituted. I annex a few numbers of the papers, not specially selected, and probably far from the worst, but merely because they are the only ones I find at the present time in my office. It is impossible for the Government to feign ignorance of the libels. They are spread broad-cast over India, and form a large part of the selections from Vernacular newspapers which come under the personal observation of the Governor-General in Council. If it be unnecessary and inexpedient to enforce the law of libel, and if paid scoundrels are permitted to attack the honour of high officials at their pleasure, daily, weekly, monthly, let the sections referring to defamation be expunged from the Indian Penal Code. What grosser violation of the law can be instanced; what case, more calling for severe punishment; what more malicious and persistent attacks and more destitute of foundation in truth or

fact? If one offence under the Penal Code may be committed with impunity, every criminal may logically demand that the sections which concern his offence and punishment may equally remain a dead letter. The Government of India will undoubtedly concur in the opinion of their distinguished Legal Member Sir Henry Maine, when, in his work on "Popular Government" he observes:—

"If any Government should be tempted to neglect, even for a moment, its function of compelling obedience to law, if a Democracy, for example, were to allow a portion of the multitude of which it consists to set some law at defiance which it happens to dislike, it would be guilty of a crime which hardly any other virtue could redeem and which century upon century might fail to repair."

9. I am surely entitled to the protection of the Government if I ask for it. For seven years I have administered Central India as Agent to the Governor-General with the full approval of two Viceroys, and I cannot leave India as is my wish in April, with any cloud upon my official reputation. I have received nothing but praise and confidence from the Indian Government. I can point to the change which has been effected in Central India during my term of office; to the public works which cover the country; to transit dues everywhere swept away; to the development of Rewah; the reorganization of Gwalior; the surrender of the Gwalior fortress to the house of Scindia; the loan of 30 millions sterling by that state to the Government to the great advantage of both; to the clearing of the Auegan State of Bhopal, which is at the same time the best work I have done, and that which has brought upon me the libels of which I complain. With all that I have done in Bhopal the Viceroy has expressed his full concurrence and approval, and your letter of the 10th of January 1887, conveying the special commendation of the Secretary of State said—"His Lordship has been pleased to express his sense of the vigour, judgment and discretion which has been displayed by you in the conduct of this long, difficult and delicate undertaking, now, through your efforts brought to what promises to be a successful termination."

Lastly, I am confident, and the Government too knows it well that in the future, no act or document of mine, through these seven years, will ever be produced which could not be approved by loyal and honorable men. Feeling this, I may be excused if I am unable to accept with equanimity the decision of the Government to do nothing. Their silence is a greater injury to me than any abuse of the press which can only be believed because the Government neither denies nor punishes it.

10. The malice and bad faith of the attacks on the Government policy in Bhopal are found in the notorious fact that they are instigated by the ex-Nawab Siddik Hossein, that many of the libellous journals are in his pay and that the documents which are perverted and misrepresented to support his case are supplied from the private office of the Bhopal Darbar. This I clearly prove in the first annexure to this letter. What interest beyond money has the Bengali Press in Bhopal or Siddik Hossein? They were probably ignorant of its existence until they were paid to denounce the Government by the very man who had been, punished and who had unlimited wealth at his disposal. Why do not the same papers denounce the action of Government in Jhallawar whose young Chief has been deprived of powers or in Tonk where the Political Agents control the Council? For the reason that it has not as in the case of Bhopal been made worth their while to do so.

11. Even at the risk of wearying the Government, I must in a few sentences repeat the well-known Bhopal story.

When I came to Central India in 1881, I found Nawab Siddik Hossein under the grave displeasure of Lord Ripon's Government for treasonable publications, and the Bhopal population crushed under the iniquitous land revenue assessment lately issued, by which the rent was raised from 17 lakhs of rupees to 41 lakhs while the whole difference between the two sums during the five or six years of settlement, was demanded in a lump sum from the people. By strong remonstrance I obtained the remission of these arrears, but the revision of the assessment, now being carefully conducted by Colonel Ward, I had neither authority nor information sufficient to interfere with. Year by year complaints grew more numerous of oppression and misgovernment in every department over all of which Siddik Hossein was virtually supreme; till at length I placed the whole case before the Government of India. I showed clearly the long course of infamy which Siddik Hossein had pursued; his continued and notorious treason in defiance of Lord Ripon's warning; justice turned into a mere engine of corruption and oppression; tenants and farmers alike ruined to fill the pockets of himself and his creatures; districts depopulated; and the police little better than organized dacoits whose plunder was shared in high quarters. The Governor-General in Council after a full consideration of the case, decided that the guilt of the Nawab was clear; he was deprived of his title and salute and forbidden to interfere in public affairs under pain of further punishment, and at the request of Her Highness the Begum an English Minister Colonel H. Ward was appointed, who, with infinite patience, tact and courage has reformed the administration and purified the Courts and police, though many years must elapse before the population ruined with hopeless arrears of debt can recover from the oppression of the past.

Siddik Hossein has now set himself to avenge his disgrace. He has secretly obstructed all measures of reform and by threats and promise and bribes has retained on his side many of the old officials, mostly Wahabis whom it was not found possible to expel. He has employed much of the State money and his own enormous wealth obtained by the most scandalous means in buying newspapers and paying for abuse of those who have brought about his just punishment, and the impunity which has so far attended this action, has infinitely increased the difficulty of administration in Bhopal, and may ere long, render it impossible. The Minister who has won the entire confidence of the people is the object of attacks as bitter and unfounded as those directed against me, and although the whole population of Bhopal regard us as their saviours from destruction, and loyal and orthodox Mohammedans throughout India thoroughly approve the policy of the Government, and would have gladly seen their enemy and ours removed from the State, it would seem from the language of the Bengali press that Siddik Hossein was an injured and innocent victim, and that we were his unjust persecutors.

12. In conclusion, I would most respectfully invite the Government to consider that its policy of indifference to malicious libels on high officials is misunderstood by the people of India of high or low degree. They either believe that the libels are true or that the Government is afraid to prosecute the Native press which utters them. Whichever be their belief it is equally injurious to the power and prestige of the Imperial Government; more so than the open preaching of sedition. The surest foundation of our power in India is the general and well-founded confidence of the people in the justice, impartiality and honesty of English officials; and if the Government allows this to be undermined and treats this invaluable possession as of small account and a thing unworthy of defence it will lose its chief support in time of danger while it will degrade the quality of its official class, for honorable men will hesitate to serve a Government which refuses to defend their honor.

THE JAIN CASE.

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT FORT WILLIAM IN BENGAL TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

Before the Honourable Mr. Justice Trevelyan.

The 28th April 1888,

In the goods of Kaloomul Sett.

In this case an application was made by Labchund Sett, who claims to be the grandson, by adoption, of the deceased, for letters of administration to the estate of the deceased.

A caveat was entered by a lady named Soorrajcoomaree Bibee, who is the widow of the natural brother of the deceased.

A person named Puddomchund claims to have been adopted by the lady's husband, and there is not, in the proceeding before the trial of this issue or in this trial, anything showing any admission by the lady of the adoption of Puddomchund. A caveat was filed, and on coming to be argued, it has been contended that in consequence of Puddomchund being the heir of the deceased, Soorrajcoomaree is not entitled to oppose the grant of letters of administration to Labchund.

I directed an issue to be tried in these words; Has the caveatrix Soorrajcoomaree Bibee any and what interest in the estate of the testator Kaloomul Sett deceased, and is she entitled to contest the right of Labchund Sett to obtain letters of administration *de bonis non* with the will annexed to the estate and effects of the testator? It has been throughout the contention of the lady that, even if Puddomchund be the legally adopted son, she is, under the laws, usages and customs of the Oswal caste of the Sectumbarry Sett of the Jains, the heir of her husband's brother. I ought to have pointed out that Kaloomul Sett left a widow and, although the caveatrix's husband survived the deceased, he predeceased the widow of the deceased.

During the course of this trial, in consequence of an objection taken to some evidence, I found it necessary to express my opinion of what I thought was the meaning of an issue of the description, and I am bound to say that, on a more careful consideration, I am more fully impressed with the view I then took. As I understand a proceeding of this kind, and if I understand sec. 23 of the Probate and Administration Act which governs this case, I must grant administration to the next of kin of the deceased. Primarily, the next of kin are entitled to letters of administration, and, as I understand this issue, it is not only an issue as to whether she has any interest, but I have also to decide whether she is entitled to contest the right of Labchund Sett to letters of administration. As far as I know, no person is entitled to contest a claim to letters of administration, unless he has a prior right, and if this lady is not next of kin, it follows she is not entitled to contest the application. The question whether she is next of kin, depends upon whether she or Puddomchund is entitled to succeed to the estate of the deceased. The question of Labchund's adoption has not been gone into here and has been postponed to the decision of the case. The

lady admits nothing, and the adoption is disputed. It was contended in the course of the trial, that I could not go into any evidence as to Puddomchund's adoption, and it was said that, independent of that, the lady has a right to the estate. It seems to me, if Puddomchund is the heir of the deceased, this lady can have no interest in the estate, and therefore would not be entitled to contest the right of Labchund. The case therefore reduces itself to two questions:

First, Was Puddomchund the legally adopted son of the husband of the caveatrix and, secondly, assuming that is so, is the caveatrix the next of kin of the deceased? As to Puddomchund's adoption, it is said that I ought not to prejudice her rights by a decision in this proceeding, but the lady has chosen to embark in this litigation, and I am bound to decide this question for the purposes of this case. Evidence has been given out of the mouth of the lady's own witness, her brother, as to the adoption. It is proved that an arrangement was come to with the natural father by the lady's husband to take Puddomchund into adoption. The factum of the adoption has been proved, and I must, for the purposes of this issue, hold that Puddomchund is the adopted son of the husband of the caveatrix. Now comes the real question as to which there was the greater contest.

Viz., Whether, assuming Puddomchund to be the adopted son, this lady is heir of the deceased. There is no question that, under ordinary Hindoo law, Puddomchund was entitled to succeed in preference to her. There is no dispute as to that. There is also no dispute on the cases that as to Jains, unless it be proved that there was some special law, usage or custom applying to the particular case, that the ordinary Hindu law must prevail. The result is that the lady must satisfy me that, under the law or some particular custom of the Sect she belongs to, the ordinary law is excluded and she takes before the adopted son.

That is the real question. It seems to me I must examine the evidence given before me. The *onus* is on the lady. She has given the evidence of four Pundits, persons professing to be versed in the laws and usages of the Jains. She has also put forward what is claimed to be evidence of the practice in cases of this kind. On the other hand, it is contended that the ordinary Hindoo law prevails, and the applicant has placed before me evidence showing that the Jains have followed the ordinary Hindoo law. The Pundits who have been called, I may assume, are men of learning. They have produced before me law works of the community. I am bound to say, without expressing any opinion of my own, that the works they produced, though said to be works of extreme antiquity, are capable of manufacture and are all (with one exception in which the binding was peculiar and easily altered) simply loose leaves, and there would be no practical difficulty in substituting a new leaf for an old one. In one case, the only leaf having any application to the case has disappeared and a copy has been made and put in its place. That may be an accident and in fact is a likely one, and so far as I can see there is nothing to shew they are other than genuine, although as I said before they are capable of being altered to any extent. I have been furnished with translation of certain texts. These are to be verified by affidavit, but I may assume the translation as accurate. The first of these texts is curious. The translation given to me is as follows:—

"The wife and the son, brother's son and a supinda, and (then) the daughter's son, (next) the son of a bundhu or of the same Gotra, becomes the alternate owner of the wealth (73)." If that is the true translation, it is curious, for the brother is excluded, and even if the gloss given by the Pundits is correct that by naming of brother his wife and son are included, that gloss does not apply here, as the brother is not mentioned and his son is mentioned. The second text has nothing to do with the case. But as far as I understand the texts, they say that when a man dies, in the first place the wife succeeds to his property, then the son, then his brother, then it goes on to the other relations. It is true that this particular case is not provided for in the texts, but the Pundits and men of learning who are not deterred by the difficulty, construe the texts as meaning the wife and descendants of the brother to be in the same order as the wife and son of the depositor. That is to say, that in absence of wife or son, the brother comes, and the term brother includes brother's wife and brother's son. That is the way they put it. But there is no text which says so.

The original Jain lawgivers do not contemplate the case, and only subsequent legal authorities have met the case by applying this construction to the earlier texts. There has been no instance given in which it has been proved by legal evidence. I don't know that one has even been suggested, that a succession of this description has ever taken place.

The Pundits know of no instance apparently. As matters stand at present, I will assume that these laws are as the Pundits explain them, assuming they do bear this gloss, and in matters of this kind it is safer to depend on the legal knowledge of persons who have been brought up in the laws. Then comes the broader question, Does a wife succeed her husband in preference to a son, and if the Pundits are right, that is the question really arising. As to that question there is no doubt, that the books produced shew that the law books of the Jains contemplate the succession in that way. I doubt whether the

mere production of a law book is sufficient, but at any rate there has been no real attempt. I use the word real because a ridiculous attempt was made by the applicant to use a book which was nothing more than a mere novel. I say there has been no real attempt to produce a book in which the law has been given in a different way, so that I think I must hold there can be no doubt that the law is laid down in this way. Now I think I ought to ascertain the practice which is followed. In a body of persons like the Jains, it is much more important and useful to act on practice than on the production of books. Supposing it has been the custom to follow the Hindu law, no amount of law books would alter the law. I think the caveatrix has failed to prove that in practice a wife succeeds to her husband's estate instead of the son. A number of cases are mentioned by the Pundits and the brother where it is said this has taken place. But no fact has been established. The mere statement that a wife succeeded her husband, is of no value. They are mere statements in the bazar and when tested they disappear directly. There is one man called whose evidence might have been of value. It appears that he was a debtor of Dhunsook Doss and that Dhunsook Doss relieved him from his debt. His interest is to support the case of a person who relieves him. But apart from any question of interest, I don't think his evidence assists one very much. We find in the evidence he gives in the previous trial that he says "we have balance sheets. I have not them here. They are in my Koti in Calcutta," and afterwards "I have only one book of account previous to the time of my mother's death. My mother's name did not appear in that book." We find him bringing suits in his own name when, in accordance with his own story, the property is his mother's. His mere statement that the property was his mother's does not amount to anything, and so far as his evidence can be tested, it seems rather to contradict the case which he seeks to support. What the witnesses say is that, among the Jains, the mother is revered and the sons don't act contrary to her advice. Just, as in other countries, the son reveres the mother, but that is a different thing from saying the widow succeeds in preference to the son. The only evidence of ownership which is worth anything at all, is unmistakable evidence of acts. The statement that mother gives directions to the son, is worth nothing. There is no evidence of any conveyance by a mother during the lifetime of a son, no suit brought by a widow in her son's life time, and no books have been produced shewing that a widow has taken the profits of the business. And as far as any tangible evidence is concerned, it is all the other way. We have in Roopchand Setty's case a suit brought by him during the mother's life time in respect to the ancestral properties. As far as I can see, the caveatrix has put forward no real evidence as to any act showing ownership of the estate during her son's lifetime. What is there on the other side? Two persons have been called who speak to having succeeded to their fathers' property in the life time of the mother. First, we have the evidence of Johurlal who said he succeeded his father, and his evidence is supplemented by the fact of his bringing a suit in his own name. It was said that he was interested. But when you come to look into it, you find he has merely been getting his bondies discounted by the firm of Labchand. But there is the fact that he brought this suit and when I find that the suit is brought by the son and there is nothing to show that the mothers do any acts unmistakably shewing ownership, I cannot but say that the sons succeed in preference to the mother, for, if otherwise, the person suing would not be the right party to the suit.

It must also be remembered that the Jains are mostly traders, and succession by the widow would prove impediment in the way of carrying on a business. It is much more likely that they would reject that portion of the Shasters. The other person who succeeded, instead of his mother, is a person against whom nothing can be said. He is a man of some position, the Viceroy's Jeweller and a Rai Bahadoor. His evidence is different from the evidence of the witnesses of both parties. What Bodridass says is that he is of the Sreemal caste (but that is the same as the Oswals). His father left two sons and the widow. He said "we all became the maliks. My father left some property, on his death we all became the maliks of the property. By *we* I mean the persons living in the house at the time." Then he says "I mean that we enjoyed the property. There was no division of the property amongst us." What that means is that they all remained joint, there was no dispute between them just as in the case of any ordinary Hindoo family. They all live together as one family. At any rate, it is absolutely inconsistent with the case of the caveatrix, *viz.*, that the woman succeeds.

As far as his evidence goes, it tends to show that in his case, at any rate, they followed the ordinary rules of Hindoo law. There is a good deal of other evidence as to what had taken place as to other men who have not been called. His evidence it is almost impossible to test. It seems to me that such evidence as is reliable at all shews that the Jains of this country do as other Hindoos, *viz.*, when a man dies, his son succeeds him and the wife only has the right of an ordinary Hindoo widow. That is all I need say as to the evidence. The result is, in the first place, I doubt whether these texts apply, but if they do apply, it seems to me that, looking at the evidence, I must find that the Jains of this part of the country at any rate, do not follow these texts, but on this question of succession they follow the laws, usages and customs of ordinary Hindoos.

It follows that the caveatrix has no interest in the estate of the deceased, and is not entitled to contest the grant of letters of administration to Labchand Sett, and the caveat must be discharged with cost.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Dated the Palace, 14th June 1888.

DEAR SIR,—On the 7th instant, I sent the letter of which I now send you a copy to the Editor of the *Indian Mirror*. He has not published it.—Yours truly,

R. BIGNELL,

Private Secretary to the Maharaja of Kuch Behar.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "INDIAN MIRROR," CALCUTTA.

SIR,—The attention of His Highness the Maharajah of Kuch Behar has been drawn to some articles published in the *Mirror*, and more especially to one in the issue dated the 16th of May 1888.

I am desired by His Highness to say that the statements in the articles under reference are unauthorised, inaccurate and groundless—and that His Highness has no intention of making any such changes in the state administration as the *Mirror* declares to have been practically determined upon. Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) R. BIGNELL,
Private Secretary.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell. [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "We serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

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The Despatch Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily on arrival of the Mails from Calcutta, and proceed to Debrooghur, stopping at all intermediate stations and Mookhs.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1888.

} No. 329

SIVA.

"*Mors Janua Vita.*"

I am the God of the sensuous fire
That moulds all Nature in forms divine ;
The symbols of death and of man's desire,
The springs of change in the world, are mine ;
The organs of birth and the circlet of bones,
And the light loves carved on the temple stones.

I am the lord of delights and pain,
Of the pest that killeth, of fruitful joys ;
I rule the currents of heart and vein ;
A touch gives passion, a look destroys ;
In the heat and cold of my lightest breath
Is the might incarnate of Lust and Death.

If a thousand altars stream with blood
Of the victims slain by the chanting priest,
Is a great God lured by the savoury food ?
I reckon not of worship, or songs, or feast ;
But that millions perish, each hour that flies,
Is the mystic sign of my sacrifice.

Ye may plead and pray for the millions born ;
They come like dew on the morning grass ;
Your vows and vigils I hold in scorn,
The soul stays never, the stages pass ;
All life is the play of the power that stirs,
In the dance of my wanton worshippers.

And the strong swift river my shrine below
It runs, like man, its unending course
To the boundless sea from eternal snow ;
Mine is the Fountain—and mine the Force
That spurs all nature to ceaseless strife ;
And my image is Death at the gates of Life.

In many a legend and many a shape,
In the solemn grove and the crowded street,
I am the slayer whom none escape,
I am Death trod under a fair girl's feet ;
I govern the tides of the sentient sea
That ebbs and flows to eternity.

And the sum of the thought and the knowledge of man
Is the secret tale that my emblems tell ;
Do ye seek God's purpose, or trace his plan ?
Ye may read my doom in your parable ;
For the circle of life in its flower and its fall
Is the writing that runs on my temple wall.

O Race that labours, and seeks, and strives,
With thy Faith, thy wisdom, thy hopes and fears,
Where now is the Future of myriad lives ?
Where now is the Creed of a thousand years ?
Far as the Western spirit may range,
It finds but the travail of endless change ;

For the earth is fashioned by countless suns,
And planets wander, and stars are lost,
As the rolling flood of existence runs
From light to shadow, from fire to frost,
Your search is ended, ye hold the keys
Of my inmost ancient mysteries.

Now that your hands have lifted the veil,
And the crowd may know what my symbols mean ;
Will not the faces of men turn pale
At the sentence heard, and the vision seen
Of strife and sleep, of the soul's brief hour,
And the careless tread of unyielding Power ?

Though the world repent of its cruel youth,
And in age grow soft, and its hard law bend,
Ye may spare or slaughter ; by rage or ruth
All forms speed on to the far still end ;
For the gods who have mercy, who save or bless,
Are the visions of man in his hopelessness.

Let my temples fall, they are dark with age,
Let my idols break, they have stood their day ;
On the deep hewn stones the primeval sage
Has figured the spells that endure alway ;
My presence may vanish from river and grove,
But I rule for ever in Death and Love.

A. C. LYALL.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

FOLLOWING the recent debate in the House and Lord Roseberry's scathing exposure of hereditary legislators, Lord Salisbury has introduced a Bill in the House of Lords to facilitate the entry of life peers into the House. It provides an annual life peerage to the number of five at the highest, the total never exceeding fifty. The eligibility of a peer to suspension for misconduct is also aimed at.

THE British Aristocracy is now in a bad way when its most illustrious members complain of it and denounce their fellows. The Douglasses are not a bad lot, being gifted with parts and accomplishments as well as a spirit of humanity. Their activity is great and varied, and they may well claim the courage of their convictions. But they are too Bohemian in their proclivities and, in fine, too freakish. We take the following summary from the *Indian Daily News'* London Correspondence :—

"Lord James Douglas, who has this week been committed to prison for a fortnight for contempt of Court in writing letters, &c., to Miss Isabel Edith Scott, a ward of the Court of Chancery, writes fairly readable novels. The Douglasses are an eccentric family. The Marquis of Queensberry has been in the Divorce Court, and he made his name conspicuous by rising up in the stalls at the Lyceum Theatre, and protesting against what he conceived to be a slight upon free thought in one of Lord Tennyson's plays. Another brother, Lord Archibald Douglas, conducts a boys' home in the Harrow Road. He belongs to

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

the Church of Rome. Lady Gertrude Douglas, a sister, married a baker some years ago. She has lived with him since contentedly in his shop at Shepherds' Bush. Another sister is Lady Florence Dixie. She first distinguished herself by championing the cause of Cetewayo. Then she 'dreamed a dream' in which Lady Florence, some assassins, and her dog played a mixed and mysterious part. Lord Archibald in a hard-working priest, and the Marquis of Queensberry, as a secularist lecturer and pamphleteer, exhibits the literary taste which appears to run in this eccentric family."

THE *Tribune* condemns Mr. W. T. Webb's new *English Etiquette for Indian Gentlemen*, as "a remarkably stupid book." The writer says:—

"Throughout the book runs the assumption that in society it is the Indian who should always conform to English manners and usages, and the European never to Indian manners and usages. In other words, all European manners and usages are good, and an Indian must part with his own if he wants to have the great privilege of mixing with Europeans. A more sensible man would have suggested mutual concession in regard to manners and usages; but Mr. Webb's rules are for Indians only. Mr. Webb would not sanction the brimless cap, he would have the *shamla* or *Mogli pugri*. 'If you wear the loose-fitting Indian shoe, to keep it on the foot in the houses of Europeans, is an act of discourtesy towards them.' Such are the injunctions given by Mr. Webb! We are told that 'the display of bare leg is particularly ungraceful.' But does Mr. Webb know that the tight trousers and short coats of European gentlemen and the low jackets of European ladies are an abomination to the Indian eye? Why should bare legs be more objectionable than bare arms and bosoms? The last certainly is more objectionable."

THE Yankees threaten to "dish" Mr. Chamberlain and his late Treaty and "sell" the Canadians, by a scientific "dodge." There seems no end to the potentialities of electricity, and their *savants* have discovered that fishes are attracted by electric light. So they propose by that means to decoy from Canadian territory the fishes in the great boundary Lakes, without payment. They only forget that scientific sharp practice is a game that may be played by both sides.

THE following is indeed a triumph of science:—

"Dr. Fleischl, Professor of Physiology in the Vienna University, had been suffering acute pain for a considerable time from a poisoned nerve. At length Dr. Gersuny, a young surgeon in the University, took him in hand, and attached, in what way we are not precisely told, the corresponding nerve of a rabbit to the diseased nerve, with the result that the Professor has been completely cured. In merest gratitude Professor Pasteur should drop his scheme for poisoning the rodent race."

That remark is at once the very humanity of wit and the wit of humanity.

THE following girl under-graduates having passed the Calcutta University Entrance Examination, as follows,

1st Division.—Mary Camell, Soradata Chatterjee, Amy Stephens, and Indira Tagore, Loretto House, Calcutta; Ida Stotesbury, Calcutta Girls' School; Hemaprabha Basu, Bethune School; and Antoinette Saville, Allahabad Girls' School.

2nd Division.—C. Bartlett, Loretto Convent, Darjeeling; Alice Boyle, Miss Starks' School; Mabel Gordon and Pauline Mality, Allahabad Girls' High School; Jessie Wince and Margaret Wince, Miss O'Brien's School; and Agnes Benjamin, Calcutta Girls' School.

have attained the full dignity of graduates.

BURMA is not to be made a Lieutenant Governorship, but the Chief Commissioner's remuneration has been raised to Rs. 6,400, the pay of a Member of Council.

JAMES GRANT, late agent of the Bank of Bombay at Karachi, and leader of local society, whom the Judges of the Province had not the heart to give his due by law for embezzling his employers' money in his charge, but who was after all sentenced to six months' imprisonment for defalcations, has escaped the discipline of jail by death.

AMERICA seems to be the paradise of the Press—so far at least as advertising goes.

"A column in the *Chicago Tribune* costs the advertiser £5,200 per annum. The *New York Herald* receives for the lowest price £7,300, and for the highest £12,600 per annum for a column. The *New York Tribune* for its lowest gets £4,250, and for its highest £17,000 for the same space. And these papers, it is said, never lack for advertisements to fill their columns."

We commend the above to the attention of the *Mirror* and other representatives of the cheap and nasty.

ABDUL HUQ, with all his extraordinary rise, is a Policeman at best. He now uses his professional arts to help him to necessary information. A regular organisation to supply him duplicate copies of tele-

grams passing through the Secunderabad telegraph office between the Residency and the Nizam's Government regarding the Mining scandal, has been discovered. Several arrests have been made. Among those implicated is Ahmed Ali, the son-in-law of Abdul Huq's brother, the Subadar. The signaller and a man named Hillier have confessed before the Magistrate.

THE Government of India has telegraphed descriptions of the murderers of the late Mr. Dalglish to Pekin, Teheran, and Russia, and has also written to Yarkand and Kashgar on the subject. Rewards of Rs. 5,000 for the capture of Dad Muhammad, the actual murderer, and of Rs. 3,000 for his principal accomplice the Punjabi Fakir Baksh, have been offered.

THE following records the success of an interesting experiment:—

"A curious 'Information Agency' has been established in London by a firm called Messrs. Romeike and Curtice. The Agency, which was regarded as a freak when it was started nearly ten years ago, has developed into a most prosperous concern, and supplies one of the wants of these busy times. Politicians, authors, artists, people working a 'cause,' can obtain from the Agency, on payment of a small fee, extracts from journals, English, American and foreign, concerning themselves or the hobby which interests them. The Agency employs sixty persons, of whom forty are women, and their task is to read hundreds of newspapers, and to mark and cut out the passages required. The extracts are then gummed on slips of paper, and sent to subscribers. The Agency receives about 6,000 newspapers a week, out of which some 30,000 extracts are made for the benefit of over 4,000 subscribers. Among the latter are naturally included a large number of public men."

The organisation meets a true want of our busy modern life. We hope it will be largely supported from India.

A RUMOUR has crossed over from Ceylon to Madras that Mr. William Digby, the well known Radical candidate, India reformer, and Secretary of the National Liberal Club, London, is about to institute an action for libel against the Editors of the *Ceylon Observer*, claiming damages for Rs. 10,000! In India, Mr. Digby was editor of the *Madras Times* and distinguished himself greatly by his philanthropic labours during the last great Famine in the South, of which he wrote a good book under the title of the *Famine Campaign in Southern India*. But before he came to the Continent, he had been in the island as sub-editor of the *Ceylon Observer*. The present case refers to his insular career. It is said that he has been accused of dishonourable conduct in having shown the accounts of his employers, the editors of the *Ceylon Observer*, to strangers. This Mr. Digby resents, and threatens to invoke the law to set himself right. We hope friends will intervene and effect a reconciliation.

THE British still claim the privilege of wife-beating as one of their inalienable rights. The following, taken from the *Englishman*, transpired in the High Court, before the Hon. the Chief Justice and Justice Tottenham, on Thursday, the 21st June.

"Mr. John Bradley appeared before their Lordships this morning, and put in a petition praying their Lordships to set aside a conviction obtained against him in the local Police Court by his wife. He had been convicted of an assault on the person of his wife he stated, and had put forward the somewhat novel defence that he was justified in assaulting her, that in chastising her, he was acting within his rights. He was not allowed to go into matters justifying the assault on his wife, by the Magistrate, and asked their Lordships to refer to the English reported case of Godbett. He put it in this way: So far as he knew there was no section in the Penal Code providing for assaults on wives or children, and he therefore argued that he was justified in chastising either on sufficient provocation. The Magistrate had informed him that the English law had no application in India. Applicant was not so sure about that, and referred their Lordships to a work by Hamilton and Edwards on the law of husband and wife.

The Chief Justice did not think that the law as expounded by the applicant was the law in England at present.

Applicant urged that gross provocation on the part of a wife justified a husband in assaulting her. He insisted that when a wife acted in a consistent course of misbehaviour, he had a right to chastise her, because there was nothing to the contrary in the Penal Code, and this was the law, as he had been instructed, in England. He doubted very much whether their Lordships would uphold his conviction.

The Chief Justice remarked that surely the position of a wife was different from that of a child.

Applicant said that that might be so, but yet the husband had control over the wife.

The Chief Justice:—You say that in this country the husband has the right of corporal punishment over his wife?

Applicant.—If he has good grounds.

The Chief Justice.—Who is to be the judge of that?

Applicant.—I was quite willing to allow the Magistrate to be the judge, but he would not let me go into that.

The Chief Justice.—He is to be the judge of the amount of punishment to be inflicted! The husband is to be both judge and executioner.

Applicant.—When it comes to a case of mere chastisement.

The Chief Justice.—But she has been beaten before, and how can there be any judge of the amount of the punishment?

Applicant.—In the same way that you may chastise a child.

The Chief Justice.—That is quite different.

Applicant.—I only ask your Lordships to rule that the Magistrate was wrong in not allowing me to go into other matters.

The Chief Justice.—The only possible way in which a judge could allow you to go into the matter would be by way of mitigation of punishment. Here the judge has only fined you ten rupees. Assault on a man's wife is a serious offence, and this fine of ten rupees is a very mild punishment.

Applicant.—The application of my wife in the first instance was to bind me down.

The Chief Justice.—I do not think this is a case in which we should interfere because it is clear from the evidence that the Magistrate had all the facts before him.

Applicant.—Will your Lordships rule that the English law does not apply here in India?

The Chief Justice.—I don't rule anything of the kind."

..

MR. O'Donnell's suit for libel against the *Times* was to have come on for hearing on the 19th instant. Mr. Parnell is one of the principal witnesses. The Attorney-General was to lead for the *Times*.

..

THE Government of the French Republic has notified its intention of holding a competitive trial of machines and processes for the preparation of Ramie and Rhea fibre.

The competition will be held at Paris on the 15th August 1888, and intending competitors should address "Le Conseiller d'Etat, Directeur de l'Agriculture, Paris."

**

MR. DILLON'S appeal against the sentence of six months' simple imprisonment for conspiracy has proved unsuccessful.

..

THE Government of India has commenced settling the claims of His Majesty Theebaw's creditors. To commence with, Messrs. Charrial and Charmetant, of Lyons, have been awarded Rs. 29,000, in full of their claim for Rs. 42,000 for silks and velvet supplied.

..

COLONEL WILSON replaces Sir Frank Souter, deceased, in the Commissionership of the Bombay Police.

..

OWING to the fall in the exchange, from first July next, foreign telegrams from India will cost higher than now. The additional charge for every word to the United Kingdom and Europe will be three annas for every word, and to other places at that proportion.

..

To enable comparatively young officers to be Sanitary Commissioners, no such appointment in future shall be for more than seven years as a rule. The period however may be extended to 10 years on the special recommendation of local Governments.

..

FRENCH silkworms have been very successful in Tonquin. The cocoon is double the size of the native and yields much superior silk.

..

IN this Iron Age, specially in India where its influence is most felt, the honest part of the community are notoriously handicapped. But the whirligig of time has brought them a chance at last. It is a hopeful sign when the standing counsel for suspected or accused officials are smitten with horror at official offences. We rejoice to see the *Pioneer* so active in exposing the corruption in connection with Hyderabad. It has denounced without compunction its old friends of the Residency, and is doing its best to bring to the mire the Stracheys, Battens, and the rest of the gods, great and small, of its former idolatry. Our readers are already informed that the good faith of the sale of the Secretariat Buildings at Bombay has been questioned. The *Pioneer* now calls upon Government for enquiry into the transaction:—

"The sale is alleged to have been effected by the Collector, the ordinary formality of calling for tenders having been dispensed with. The price given for the property by the Sirdar is stated to have been four lakhs of rupees: a price which, we have reason to believe, was very considerably below their market value."

AN English engineering journal notices a peculiar difficulty in the way of railway construction in the South-Western States of America in (*Iron* says) the frequent occurrence of quicksands in rivers. It refers to the experience of Mr. H. L. Carter, the railway contractor. The Quicksands are in nearly every stream, however small, from Western Kansas to the mountains. Pile-driving was no good, the longest piles disappearing without touching the bottom. Then filling with earth and stone was equally vain. The only means of crossing the rivers was found to be to construct short truss bridges across them. This was very expensive, but was the only thing to be done. Mr. Carter cites the case of an engine that ran off the track at River Bend, about ninety miles from Denver, on the Kansas Pacific. The locomotive, a large goods-engine, fell into a quicksand, and in twenty minutes had entirely disappeared. Within two days the company sent out a gang of men and a wrecking train to raise the engine. To their surprise, not a trace could be found of the engine. Careful search was made, magnetised rods were sunk to the depth of 65 feet, but there were no signs of the locomotive. It had sunk beyond human ken.

..

A HINDU male acquaintance of ours in his boyish days, seeing her daily driving in phaeton in charge of European children, sighed for the lot of the Ayah. And a mighty part the Ayah plays in Anglo-Indian life. Just now she is the observed of observers, having brought the almighty Lambert's frisky lambs to a stand, however momentary.

Mr. Hyde, the barrister, has an Ayah in his employ. That Ayah has a son. That son was in the service of Dr. Coulter. There was a theft in that house, and the Police took charge of the boy and, after putting him to a course of discipline, found there was no evidence against him. Before he was released, Mr. Hyde had called at the Police station and examined the boy, and found his thumbs swollen and noticed black marks around, underneath the swollen top joints. There were also blisters along the lower part of the nails. Thereupon a charge was instituted against the Police for extortion and torture. Mr. Gasper prosecuted, and Mr. Marsden has committed three native constables and Inspector Boyd for extorting confession and abetting.

..

THE vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Leslie Saunders will be filled by the appointment of Mr. T. C. Plowden, Resident in Kashmir, to be Commissioner of Berar. It is not yet definitely settled who is to be sent to Kashmir.

..

"LOKIL SLUFF" may be a good joke to the barren writers on the Anglo-Indian Press. But surely our municipalities never produced such an incident as the following which occurred at a French election:—

"An incident of the late Municipal elections is reported from Catterri, a small town in Corsica. The present Mayor, a Bonapartist, would appear to be peculiarly obnoxious to the Republicans of the place, who have made strenuous efforts to oust both him and his reactionary colleagues from their seats on the Council. The election was held in a school room belonging to a Republican. Just as the Mayor, after the close of the poll, had opened the urn for the purpose of counting the votes, a cupboard behind his table suddenly burst open, giving egress to a member of the gentle sex, who incontinently seized upon the voting papers, swallowed several of them, and tore up others. The election was thus rendered void."

We have had no "Lokil Sluff" Rakshashi yet. So far as the devouring process is concerned, that she Corsican has lately been matched in India, by a European heroine who swallowed up in the court the forged document on which her husband was on trial for forgery. She went to jail for a few days for contempt, but she saved her husband. We can honor her for her motive as well as for her genius.

**

IT is justly complained by the *Bangalore Post* that—

"A Bangalore correspondent from this place to the *Hindu* lately held forth against the members of the community to which we have referred, holding posts under the Mysore Government; all these employed ought to be natives, he contended, simply because it was a Native State."

What a pity our native contemporaries do not take care to eliminate such foolish writings from their columns!

**

THE first railway in Persia, extending from Teheran to Shah Abdul, a distance of fifteen kilometres, was to have been opened on Thursday last, June 21.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

AFTER the lying-in-state on the 16th the funeral of the Emperor Frederick the Third took place on the 18th. It was a simple military procession, from the Palace to the Friedenskirche, attended by the Crown Prince William, the Prince of Wales and a few members of royalty. Potsdam was crowded by visitors from early morning. The road was lined by a double row of soldiers and a large military escort accompanied the hearse.

The *post mortem* disclosed the cancer which was at one time doubted. The larynx had been completely destroyed, leaving a cavity of the size of a man's clenched fist.

The English Court has gone into mourning for six weeks, and a general mourning has been ordered for a fortnight. The two Houses of Parliament have voted addresses of condolence to her Majesty the Queen and the Empress Victoria. In India, the Governor-General-in-Council issued the following Gazette Extraordinary in black.

"Home Department.—Notification.—Public.—No. 1700.—Simla, the 17th June, 1888. Official intelligence having been received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India that the Funeral of His late Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany will take place tomorrow the 18th instant, the Governor-General in Council directs that, as a mark of respect to His Imperial Majesty's Memory, Flags shall be hoisted half mast high from sunrise to sunset and Sixty Minute Guns fired in all Forts and Stations throughout India on that day.

The Governor-General in Council further directs that the Officers of Her Majesty's Civil, Military, and Marine Services do put themselves into Mourning till the 7th of July.

By order of the Governor-General in Council,

A. P. MACDONNELL,
Secretary to the Government of India."

Crown Prince William has ascended the throne of Germany as Emperor William the Second. The new Emperor promises well. In his proclamation to the people of Prussia, issued after the funeral, His Majesty deeply mourns the death of his dearly beloved father, vows to be just and clement, and says that he will foster religion, guard the peace and promote the commonweal of his country. This was followed up with a most reassuring message to France. Thereupon, the Czar has declined to sanction his War Minister, General Vannovski's proposal for doubling the reserve battalions of the army, the Emperor declaring that the situation does not justify him in overburdening the finances of the Empire. As a consequence the public credit throughout Europe has been steadied.

DASAHARA passed away without its usual drops of rain, and deaths from heat apoplexy continue. The Judges of the High Court have suspended their respective courts for ten days and the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Trevelyan have gone to the hills with many of the senior barristers. The offices, however, remain open. The Bengal Secretariat was closed on Wednesday following the Dasahara vacation, the Under-secretaries in charge not thinking themselves competent to order vacation for the rest of the week. At Alipore, Judge Garret keeps himself away from the court, leaving his subordinate judicial officers to follow his example. In the Revenue Department of the Bengal Secretariat, there is morning office and the Alipore Civil Courts propose to follow the precedent from next week. The Accountant-General has allowed full holiday to his office this day. He has also arranged to pay all pensions on the 2nd July in the morning, dispensing with the attendance of pensioners when possible for identification.

The weather has been cooled a little by a downpour last night.

The heat in Calcutta has been unprecedented. The maximum hitherto registered was 106 degrees in 1879. This month the thermometer recorded 108. We annex a comparative register in the shade from the 13th to the 22nd in Balasore, Calcutta, Midnapore and Cuttack.

Maximum temperature in the shade.

June 1888.	Balasore.	Calcutta.	Midnapore.	Cuttack.
13th	104.5	103.4	109.4	109.4
14th	102.5	104.9	112.4	111.4
15th	113.0	106.8	111.4	110.4
16th	108.5	103.9	109.9	108.9
17th	94.4	94.5	102.3	92.4
18th	102.5	101.4	109.9	107.9
19th	107.5	102.3	110.4	109.4
20th	106.5	99.9	108.9	111.4
21st	106.5	101.4	111.4	108.4
22nd	105.5	99.4	109.4	108.9

THERE was a rumour that Mr. Jones of the Small Cause Court was dead of the weather. But he is as hale and hearty as ever.

These jolly Joneses are not easily snuffed out. These elastic Britishers—*adstricti glebe* so to say—have a prodigious vitality. Look at the amount of killing Our Jones has undergone! If he has escaped once he has escaped nearly a dozen times. If Nature has relented, man has been obdurate. Captain Taylor though he succeeded in wrecking his vessel in crossing from the other bank of the Hoogly to this, could not drown the irrepressible Jones. Then the eminent Counsellor Bell tried on him the slaughtering powers of his sarcasm pointed with apt quotations from Shakespeare. It was all in vain. The great Bureaucracy of India, although it tried as much as ever it could, failed to suppress the sturdy Jones. The great Chairman of the Town sat on him as if Jones was the Chair, but found it uncomfortable. Jones's Chief next tried the game, and had a regular run with him, but Jones beat him by a neck. Our miniature Hercules's latest triumph is his conquest over this terrific heat of the season. Long may he be spared to be an example of honest success!

THE Parliamentary enquiry into the Hyderabad mining concession has ended. It has brought out some scandalous disclosures. But so many "big wigs" are implicated that we are truly anxious about the final result. English Committees and Commissions have an unfortunate habit of white-washing swell delinquents or ending in smoke.

PUNDIT SHAMA VARMA having been driven from the Dewanship, the modern device—a Council has been constituted for the administration of Rutlam. The cast is composed of Maharaja Ranjet Sing, K.C.I.E., as President, Mr. Krishnaji Sadasiv Riswadker, B. A., L. L. B., Sir Nyayadish, Babu Nabin Chandra Roy, Naib Dewan, Mr. Ganpat Lalji, merchant, and Shet Shri Krishnaji, merchant, as members, Babu Nobin Chunder being Secretary and the medium of all official communication. That means that the Chief means to be his own Minister. The Naib Dewan is, of course, the virtual Naib—all in all.

THE Commission on Mr. Larpent, late Registrar of the Punjab University, found him guilty and the Governor-General in Council has directed his dismissal from Her Majesty's Service. The charges against him were

"(1) That he agreed to receive from Ram Saran Das Rs. 2,500 with the view of showing him favour in the law examination at Lahore in December, 1886, and that he did actually receive Rs. 1,510 as a bribe for that purpose; (2) that he permitted Gunde Sing to introduce certain candidates to him, knowing that Gunde Sing was endeavouring to induce them to believe that their success at the examination depended on their coming to terms with him (Mr. Larpent), and that he knew that thereby he would aid Gunde Sing in obtaining an illegal gratification; (3) that he communicated to some other person, or knowingly, or by gross and culpable negligence, permitted some other person to ascertain examination questions at the above examination."

The Commission found the first two charges fully proved and could not acquit the accused of the third. But the Governor-General in Council, while agreeing with the Commission in their finding on the first two, considers the third charge not established. The gravity, however, of the proved offences is such that no lighter punishment could be inflicted.

A NEW god has been added to the Chinese Pantheon. A letter has appeared in a missionary periodical—the *Spirit of Missions*—in which Miss Adele H. Fielde, who appears to be devoted to work of charity among Chinese women, gives an account of the apotheosis of a hog.

"Last year a villager living about thirty miles from here went to a neighbouring hamlet and bought a pig that he intended to kill. Having paid the money for it, he tied a rope round it behind the shoulders and attempted to drive it home. When just in front of a temple on the outskirts of a hamlet, it slipped the noose, rushed into the building, and took refuge under the altar. No exertion of its owner succeeded in getting it out of the fane; and when it finally crouched before the god and refused to stir, the assembled crowd began to look upon it as a devotee, and to fear to interrupt its petitions. Some of the bystanders belonging to the hamlet in which the pig was reared made up a purse which repaid the buyer for his outlay, and the contributors then became the owners of the hog, whose fame for piety soon spread throughout the hamlet. A new shrine was prepared and the hog was enticed into it, while awe-stricken throngs came to do him reverence. The whitest of rice was offered for his delectation, and so fastidious did he become as to reject many of the dainties lavishly brought to him by his worshippers. One day two men simultaneously gave him eggs to eat, and when he partook of the one offering and rejected the other, the keeper explained that the deity dwelling in him saw that the latter offering had

not been made with a pure heart. The offerer thereupon confessed that just before his leaving home his youngest child had cried for one of the eggs brought for the offering, and that he had struck the child for crying. This story was spread abroad and helped to increase the number and the servility of the worshippers. The hog had gold earrings put in its ears, a handsome bed to lie in, and strings of coins hung around its neck. When the strings of coins became numerous and heavy, they were quietly removed by the shrine-keepers. Some of the pilgrims to this shrine were marvellously cured of disease, and then the filth of the sty began to be in demand for all ailments. Persons came a day's journey to buy the offal for sick friends, and the sale of it kept the shrine exquisitely clean. At the last report this sale was still carried on, and the porcine idol was so fattened on the cakes brought to him that his eyes had become invisible!

The Chinese have at length come to a logical conclusion. It is a wonder how miserably they have been fumbling about so long to find the true object of their worship! It was their devotion to the animal to which they are indebted for their independence. Like the geese that saved the State in ancient Rome, the pigs prevented China from being permanently absorbed within the empire of Islam, the Mahomedans retiring from the country in disgust after conquering it, in despair of weaning the vile people from their unfortunate clinging to the dirty beast. Surely, there could be no more weighty claim to apotheosis; many have received the compliment on far cheaper terms—by exhibiting some mountebank tricks, say; and the so-called Celestials have been bad even for mortals in not, during all these centuries, doing honor to the saviour of their country. The Devil is entitled to justice, and the hog's dues are no less sacred than Cæsar's. If the Chinese have been slow in their recognition of their old benefactor of a beast, never mind; better late than never. The delay in the formal ceremony of fetichisation must, we suspect, be an accident. For, as a matter of fact, the hog has always been in high repute among the Chinese. There is perhaps no country where the hog is more prized, unless it be unhappy Ireland where the brute is esteemed superior to the human being and reckoned the more loyal and reputable subject and the more valuable tenant, and of course better housed and fed and altogether more cared for than his owner *de jure*, who in reality is maintained by him. It should not be imagined that, in worshipping the pig, the Chinese are going to abandon their taste for pork. They are wiser in their religion. And they will not deny themselves a luxury that even the terror of Moslem arms did not succeed in making them forswear. They will be accused of eating their god, that is all. It is true the Chinese eat their god. But so are the Irish accused—witness the Rev. Peter Plymley's remonstrance with his brother Abraham. Besides, cats and other animals bite in token of love. The thing is prevalent among men in this country, and not unknown in the West, we believe. It is inconvenient, no doubt, and may prove dangerous, when blood is drawn, as sometimes must happen. Hence the origin of the milder forms of kissing. But the tendency to the original type remains. From bleeding biting to eating is but a step. The Chinese only carry the thing to its logical conclusion in munching and devouring their god in the excess of religious fervour.

The Celestials have indeed original ways of dealing with their gods. In the plenitude of their faith, they are ever and anon praying. They do nothing without consulting their gods. Even more than Hindus, they carry their lares and penates wherever they go. Not a junk or a boat but has its chapel and sanctuary. If a storm is threatened, they fall down before the vessel's gods, and pray, leaving the vessel to the mercy of wind and wave. If prayer do not avail, they fall upon the gods and punish them for their obduracy or their offences. Such a people are not to be deterred by the scruples of outer-barbarians, Asiatic or European, from feasting on the flesh of their god when an opportunity offers.

SPORTING is not always favorable to perspicacity, so we are not surprised at the confession of the sporting staff of a Calcutta paper, namely, "We have been trying to master what the *Indian Daily News* intends to convey in the article on football, spread out in its" (15th) morning's issue." Nor is that all. Little did the morning *News* dream of its danger from giving the *Evening News* the travail of understanding. Nay, the danger is diffusive, the sin of one entailing liability of all. The *Evening's* sporting, clearly, is not by any means sportive. The *enfant terrible* has supreme contempt for the "dried up old fossils, such as the editors of the *J. D. N.* or the *Statesman*, or candidates, for honors as the real fatman—such as he who bosses the *Englishman*." "The gentlemen who attempt to teach the 'young bloods' are, we notice, conspicuous by their absence when there is a

rough and tumble match to be played." Not content with that, the young lions of Bentinck Street flaunt their glove. "We should like to get the frozen up old beings on a fair field—we then might teach them something," much as Indian Dawson in the story said to the lady, *Arrendi panja kase*, which may be freely rendered, Let us have a boxing match. Truly leonine to be sure, but such rings of beasts will scarcely require the services of a Cumming or a Gerard.

A CORRESPONDENT of a *Ceylon Patriot*, from Colombo, a man of experience, intelligently, if not methodically, discourses on the rabies. He begins at the beginning, with the standard definition:—

"Hydrophobia is a disease caused by inoculation with the saliva of a rabid animal and characterized by intermitting spasms of the muscles of respiration together with a peculiar irritability of the body and disturbance of the mind."

The writer's arrangement is not good, but the subject is of such vital importance that we will give the cream of his letter in logical order. He is thoroughly practical. Recognising the hopelessness of cure, he insists on prevention. According to him,

"the poison after it has found entrance into the system lies apparently dormant for a period varying from less than a week to about two years (the average time being two to six weeks) so that when the true symptoms of Hydrophobia appear the vital organs are so seriously endangered that remedial agents can do but a little benefit."

He adds—

"It is of the highest importance that every body should be able to discover the earliest symptoms of rabies in dogs."

Accordingly, he gives information which will enable a man to avoid a dangerous dog—plain hints for plain people. He dwells on the premonitory symptoms of affection in the animal:—

"The animal's appetite is impaired or entirely lost; there is always a propensity to lick cold surfaces, to devour straws, grass and similar rubbish. Great eagerness is exhibited by the animal to frequent common urinary places and localities where animal excretions are found. The saliva of the dog is very thick and sticks to the corners of the mouth, and hence the animal is forced to use its paws as if trying to remove a bone that has stuck between its teeth. Very often the animal shows excessive fondness by licking the hands and feet of its master. Thus the poison may be unconsciously absorbed through any small sores or scratches which may exist. Especially at this time when mad dogs are numerous it should be an invariable rule that no person suffering from itch or any other skin disease should allow himself to be licked by any dog. It is the popular, though erroneous idea that the dog like the human being has an intense dread of water, on the contrary it suffers from insatiable thirst which it tries to allay by licking the angles of its mouth. When the disease becomes more advanced, the dog is delirious, changes its voice and suffers from increased thirst. It is an important characteristic (which is not generally understood by the ordinary people) that the animal is perfectly insensible to pain, so that even its throat may be cut off without a groan. In addition to the symptoms already enumerated the most valuable physical sign which goes to prove the existence of rabies in a dog is afforded by an examination of the contents of the stomach. If the animal be rabid, one is sure to find hair, straw, earth, &c."

In this country, dogs are found to devour wiry grass, apparently as an emetic, and vomit it. A man who has kept pariahs tells us that they vomit an animal or animal substance somewhat resembling a snail, having seen it in the contents of the stomach of several mad pariahs. Surely, the thing could not be confined to the wretched canine breed of this country, and it must have been noticed by Europeans, if their mad dogs had thrown up such a curious substance. We mention what we hear for what it may be worth.

On the cause of the disease in the animal, the writer has one single simple remark of value which ought to be remembered by all who keep dogs:—

"This fatal disease may arise in dogs by close confinement, unwholesome food or by the bite of an already diseased animal."

The treatment he prescribes is as follows:—

"If any one has the misfortune to be bitten by a rabid or even a suspicious dog, at once a string should be tied very tightly above the seat of injury with a view to arrest the circulation in the part. The wound should be well washed and allowed to bleed freely. The patient or his friends provided they have no sores or abrasions in the mouth may with impunity suck the wound, washing their mouth with vinegar and water after each act. As soon as possible a piece of iron, such as nail or knife-blade heated to a white heat should be freely and deeply applied to the part. The above method is the most reliable. Caustics such as nitrate of silver, if applied freely, is usually effectual. But if the interval be long the part should be freely burnt with Nitric or Carbolic acid."

That will remind the reader of the directions given for snake-bite, but it is nonetheless sensible on that account. In fact, all animal bites must be treated in the same way.

We learn that

"The road from the foot of the hills to Naini Tal seems specially fatal to Tonga ponies. At the late meeting in London of the Rohil-

khund and Kumaon Company's shareholders, General Trevour stated that up to date, the Company had lost Rs. 14,000 by the service, chiefly from fatalities among their cattle, pneumonia being the prevailing epidemic. If this goes on the Company will, it was stated, have to stop the service altogether."

What a confession of incapacity! We are sure these managers and directors would lose caste on the Continent or in America. They know the cause of death and yet they see their costly animals dying out without applying a remedy! That is simple, if they have the sense to see it and the courage to apply it. What do they themselves do to save themselves? They keep themselves warm—clothe themselves. Let them, then, clothe their poor ponies. And if fools laugh, let the dogs bark.

PERSIA, the home of successive invaders of India, was long regarded as the land of jewel accumulations. Many of the treasures were supposed to have been lost or dispersed in the innumerable revolutions of the country. But then Oriental sovereigns are accustomed to replenish their stock, by means fair or foul, as opportunity offers. Accordingly, there was no ground for surprise when Eastwick's *Journal of a Diplomat* first revealed a glimpse of the vast store of gems in the Shah's possession.

The latest information on the subject is supplied in the following extract from an English paper:—

"A traveller in the East has indulged us with the account of what he saw in the Shah's museum. He says it is probable that in the museum there are more than twenty-five million pounds' worth of jewellery, precious stones, 'coined and uncoined gold, costly objects of vertu, fine porcelain and glassware, old weapons and armour, tableware ornaments of exquisite Persian and Hindu workmanship, &c. The so-called peacock throne (a part of the plunder of Nadir Shah carried off from Delhi one hundred and fifty years ago) is alone valued at many millions even after a number of large, rough, and uncut jewels have been broken out and stolen. It is an incongruous place, this museum. There you will see vases of agate or gold and lapis lazuli, said to be worth millions; and alongside of them empty perfume bottles of European make, with gaudy labels, that can be had wholesale for about three pence apiece. You will see priceless mosaics, exquisitely planted cups, and cans, and vases, which were presented by some European potentate; and side by side with them you will notice horrible daubs, veritable shilling chromos, picked up goodness knows how and where. You will perceive glass cases filled with huge heaps of rubies, diamonds, emeralds, sapphires, turquoises, garnets, topazes, pearls, of all sizes and kinds cut and uncut; and cheek by jowl with these your eyes will see cheap music-boxes, Jew's harps, squeaky hand-organs. The Shah must also be in a condition to "bull" the market with pearls; for there is, for instance, a big glass case, 24in. long by 18in. wide and high that is more than half filled with beautiful pearls (mostly from the Persian Gulf fisheries), of all sizes and degree of loveliness. In a separate long case the orders and decorations of the Shah, coming from nearly every country in the world, are kept on exhibition; but the crown jewels are in a little box that is always locked and of which the Shah himself for ever, waking or sleeping, carries the keys. The contents of this box and of the several vaults where he keeps his piles on piles of bright, shining, unused money, he never allows others to view."

We have no doubt of the good faith of the writer. The horrible chromos assure us of it. It is an unmistakable touch. The juxtaposition of the genuine and the make-believe, of the elegant and the meretricious, of the grand and the gaudy, of pure light and vulgar matter, is a type of Eastern degradation of the day. It was in keeping with it, that the Shah was caught wearing in Europe paste jewellery.

WE had hoped that the ill wind from the discreditable *frécas* of the 4th instant, in the Fire Temple of this city, which blew nobody, in the business or out of it, good, would be allowed to blow over. Instead of making bad worse by rushing into court, the parties had the sense, after the original indiscretion or burst of passion, to submit their differences to the arbitration of friends, who prevailed upon them to accept mutual explanations and apologies. There the matter ought to have ended. But it seems that certain parties are not content with such a desirable result. From the first, it was evident that there were parties, other than those immediately concerned, who were determined to make the most of the scandal, and to push matters to court, if possible. It was neither the Mehtas nor Padshah who first rushed to the print, but these busybodies. It was the Rustomjees, who are known to bear no good will towards the rising family of the Mehtas, who called at the *Indian Daily News* office, and pressed for the appearance of a garbled account which would have had the effect of highly prejudicing the Mehtas in the eyes of the public and Government and with the court, in case the parties went to court. Although the editor, a staunch old follower of the principle of *audi alteram partem*, was persuaded to publish a letter, he utterly discredited it in a foot note. Accordingly, a Parsee medical practitioner was put up next day to support the previous communication.

Meanwhile, the parties to the assault had agreed to forgive each other and, so far as may be, to forget. The following day, the *Statesman*, which had hitherto preserved silence, came out with a careful account of the transaction, evidently framed from the statements of all sides, which we quoted. There the matter might have been left, but the busybodies would not let it so rest. One of the papers which Padshah supports with his Swiss valour—for he has spirit enough for a scribbling *guerilla*—has, we are told, abused Mehta like a thief. At any rate, the original Rustomjee-Shroff version had been telegraphed to Bombay—the Parsee Vilayet—and came back pouring in in English and Gujrati journals. The commotion in Parsee Calcutta again became general. Thereupon, a well-known Parsee, who, as a friend of both sides, and perhaps a special "chum" of Padshah's, had hitherto kept his peace, could not in conscience hold out any longer, and called upon the editor of the *Indian Daily News*. He volunteered a statement which the editor gives as follows:—

"When the marriage ceremony was over, some of the people were going away, and among them was Mr. R. D. Mehta, and our informant was at the time talking with Mr. H. M. Rustomjee. Mr. Padshah was at the corner of the portico, and he saw Mr. Padshah throw something. Mr. Mehta turned round, and called upon all to witness, the outrage as he would prosecute the offender. Mr. Mehta, senior, as an old man, had a stick. Mr. Padshah, who, it is said, is subject to fainting when excited, fainted before he was struck. Our informant saw a stick, but could not say how or where Padshah was struck. Some of the people present interfered, and persuaded Mr. Mehta to leave the place. Dr. Shroff attended Padshah, and he revived. After a time, Dr. Shroff lost his temper, and some one threatened Padshah. The Mehtas were not in the church, but in the compound when this occurred. The elder went into the church for explanation. Dr. Shroff said this was not the time or place for explanation. Finally, they went away to the bridal festivities. Our informant says that he told Padshah that he saw him throw something, and he was crying at being insulted."

That is Mr. Madan's account, who is always accessible to any gentleman at his place near the Corinthian Theatre who may be desirous of pursuing the inquiry. It is not only *vraisemblant* but its moderation reveals a kindness for both sides. It may, we think, be accepted by all impartial men as a substantially accurate account. It disposes of the sensational story of Mr. Shroff, and so far as it goes, it fully vindicates the Mehtas. We are glad that it does justice to the father—the son is a young man wellknown in general society, European and native who has shown in this very occurrence, lamentable as it was in its accessories, that he is well able to take care of himself. Mr. Dhunjeebhoy Mehta is a venerable old man of a type fast disappearing, austere yet human, a loving disciplinarian, a prudent man of business, an example to the rising generation. As for what the Padshahs may say no body need much trouble himself about it.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1888.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION—ITS DIFFICULTIES.

It is believed that a Resolution on the subject of technical education is about to be issued by the Government of India. The publication will be a refutation of the charge which has been formulated against the present administration of indifference in this respect, although we are far from sanguine of much good coming of it. The question is one of great practical difficulty, and its solution will scarcely be advanced by any amount of mere writing and discussion. The absence, however, of any system of technical education in this country worth the name cannot but be a source of constant embarrassment to its rulers, and they cannot but be painfully alive to the necessity of remedying the evil. If, at the same time, they have failed to do much or even anything in the direction so urgently pointed out by necessity, this is from no want of inclination but from the difficulty of the enterprise itself. As to the forthcoming Resolution, so far as we can anticipate, it will merely lay down a scheme for the guidance of local administrations, and devolve financial responsibilities

on them as well as the District and Municipal Boards. How ~~far~~ these will be in a position to carry out their orders—how far they will be able to meet the pecuniary demands made upon them—is the question. Then, again, if technical education is to be something of a superior kind engrafted on the stem of the University system of education, which is already in possession of the field, difficulties of organization of another kind and of wellnigh a formidable character stare one in the face. These difficulties are not merely connected with the reorganization of the University examinations, but will arise from the resistance of the educational institutions which prepare students for the University examinations. Several of these are private institutions, and it is not likely that they will, without a struggle, fall into the new track. The Universities are, indeed, become a power in the land, and the institutions subordinate to them must, in the long run, adapt their teaching to the standards instituted by the University authorities. But it will be no easy thing for them to provide a "modern side" to their education. Competent teachers of practical subjects have to be created before the colleges can adopt two parallel courses of instruction leading up, one to the literary, and the other, to the "modern" Examination of the University. Till such teachers have been made available, it is but natural these college authorities will oppose all the *vis inertiae* in their power to frustrate the new system. From our experience of the difficulty of finding teachers of surveying in the Entrance Classes of our schools, it may easily be imagined that not even the power and prestige of University Examinations will be sufficient to counteract this danger. At any rate, it will be a work of time as well as of cost, to provide a body of capable teachers for the "modern" examinations. Training Institutions will have to be founded here as well as superior talent to be indented for from England. The financial aspect of the question thus begins to open on the view, and it is this aspect which presents the greatest difficulty all along the line. It may be all very well for the Supreme Government to lay down a scheme, and to direct that funds should be provided by state and local grants for the promotion of that scheme. Easier said, however, than done. How many urgent schemes of reform in various departments remain mere paper-schemes for want of money? Even as regards education, what has been the fate of many of the proposals made by the Education Commission, the appointment of which, under the most favorable auspices, was to do so much for the diffusion of knowledge in the land? That Commission, although its instructions did not include the subject of technical education, did not entirely ignore it. On the contrary, it proposed a bifurcation of the curriculum in High Schools—one course leading to the University, and the other fitting boys for commercial pursuits. Moderate as were the requirements of this proposal, they remain neglected up to this day. What vast less chance of fruition must there be for a complete scheme of technical education which is to be an integral part of the University system, having its apex in the higher regions of the University, just as the system of general education which is in possession of the field!

The question is complicated by this fact of possession. One whole field is already occupied, and the difficulty is twofold. First, a new field has to be occupied with a new set of workers, and appliances; secondly, the occupation of this field must be accom-

plished with the aid of additional pecuniary resources, so as not to interfere with the work of the old one. The Government of India has repeatedly declared its determination that technical education should not be promoted at the expense of the interests of higher English education. To some extent, this education has recently become self-supporting, and so far the funds hitherto provided for its promotion might be transferred to help the cause of technical education. But the declared policy of the Government is often in danger of misapplication in the hands of administrators, in whom the zeal for practical education is synonymous with hatred of high education. A notable case in point has recently been furnished by the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, in his attitude towards the Morris College at Nagpore. This is the single people's College at the capital, for the provision of high education, and, notwithstanding that it has only recently been called into being, to meet a long-felt want, and is chiefly supported from endowments by the people, the Chief Commissioner can find no better means for stimulating technical education than by proposing to appropriate its funds, and thus violating the objects for which they were subscribed. We fear in this Mr. Mackenzie has only betrayed the usual official feeling on the subject, which, generally, is one of more or less disguised hostility to high education. True it is that the English education has taken a root in the country, so far as appreciation of its benefits by the people at large is concerned, but the time is not yet come when it may be left to shift for its help. The Education Commission has, indeed, recommended the gradual withdrawal of the Government from the work of higher education, but it is careful to stipulate that this withdrawal must in no case be made where the interests of higher education are likely to suffer from such withdrawal. The necessity of liberating the funds, now appropriated to higher education, for other purposes, leads officials to pay little regard to that stipulation. Their attitude is fraught with danger, and in discussing the subject, it may be as well to remember that, as the financial question has the most important bearing on the whole subject of a technical education for India, much as one may feel the necessity of provision being made for such education, it will have been got too dear if it were detrimental to the progress of English education.

Be the difficulties of the task as they may, it must be faced, sooner or later. We are curious to see how the Government of India has dealt with the subject. Its resolution naturally comes after its very exhaustive Note on the subject, which was noticed in these columns some two years ago. The Government could not have been sleeping over the question. Indeed, its pressing importance cannot but be realized every moment by those who administer the affairs of the people. As was said in the Note, our schools and colleges are yearly adding to the crowd of young men whom our system of education has rendered discontented with the sphere of life to which they were born, without fitting them for another. The question of technical education has the same political significance as other general questions of administration, having for their object, by the proper ordering of affairs, the diminution of popular suffering and discontent. Viewed in this light, the importance of the forthcoming document cannot be overestimated. We only hope the difficulties which beset the problem will be grappled with in a thorough-going spirit. Or, as we fear, the thing will remain where it is.

AN INCIDENT IN THE JAIN CASE.

IN connection with the costly litigation which is going on in the High Court between members of the Jain community, and in which we were enabled last week to lay before our readers the judgment of Mr. Justice Trevelyan, a curious fact has appeared in one of our morning contemporaries. It is stated that the Registrar of Calcutta, Baboo Pratap Chandra Ghosha, is security for the administration of the estate which is the subject or object of contention. Before the notice of the case appeared in the *Statesman*, we had heard of the same gentleman's connection with the parties and of his having undertaken the onerous responsibility, but we did not believe it. What had he, a Hindu gentleman, a Calcutta Baboo, and a Bengali Kayastha, to do with the private affairs of Burra Bazar Jains?

We were aware that he often visits Mirzapore, where his mother resides, and was so smitten with its charms as to spoil the view of his own quarter of the native town of Calcutta—Jorasanko—by the *grotesquerie* of planting an up-country temple with surroundings to match, right against his own neat modern mansion, built by his unsophisticated father, and in the sight and in immediate neighbourhood of the imposing *façade* of the immense palace of the Singhs. His former employment under the Asiatic Society, may have blown him into a *dilettante*—his own tastes lay in the direction of the sciences, more or less exact, rather than the uncertainties of antiquarian speculation—and led him to indulge in dreams of being a Bimal Shah on a small scale. He might even be a sort of amateur Jain or Buddhist in Bengali society. He might utilise his opportunities as Registrar to extend his connections. In the outlandish and absurd way in which he celebrated the late weddings in his family, a Jain connection was visible. When all these several circumstances were strung together, the nett result amounted to this much that he had an intellectual interest in Jainism and might have Jain acquaintances. That was all. He would certainly not enter into partnership in business with his interesting friends, nor go deep into their private concerns. In such matters he would keep them at arm's length, however, he might be charmed by their marbles or driven into their customs for the nonce. As a careful servant of Government in special, he would, in the absence of the most imperative reasons for a contrary course, decline any intimate connection, and certainly not entangle himself in any pecuniary obligations. No such imperative reasons were offered to us by our informant, and we could imagine none. Indeed, we knew Baboo Pratap Chandra Ghosha sufficiently to reject the story. His antecedents absolutely discredited it. He comes of a family remarkable for cold calculation. We can recall no instances of disinterested friendship or generous sacrifice. His father's long service in the judicial profession perhaps exaggerated the family prudence and harshness. The son is an intense copy of the father. Without any of the old Hindu gentleman's superficial grace of manner, he is far more repulsive, even forbidding. It would not become us to say so much of a respectable member of our society, if the fact were not notorious. For some years after the favour of Sir Ashley Eden enabled him to vault from a pay of Rs. 100 or so at a private establishment to a Government appointment carrying Rs. 500 or Rs. 600, over the heads of many deserving officers, not a man went to him on business who did not come away dissatisfied, not to say deeply mortified, by the insolence of the little man dressed in brief authority. The giddiness of sudden elevation might explain the phenomenon in the case of an ordinary man, but Pratap was a Pandit and was no *parvenu*. The theory was definitively abandoned when the distressing symptoms proved chronic. He is usually regarded as a scowling misanthrope, hating mankind and hated by them. The case is far from so bad as that. But, while the love of lucre is the same, we have not discerned in the son the moderate capacity for friendship of the father.

That such a man should meddle in what does not concern him, and, above all, handle the pitch of a dead Burra Bazar merchant's estate and effects in litigation between contending Jains, Marwarees and Oswals, seemed impossible. We were assured that it was so. But when we were told that Baboo Pratap Chandra Ghosha, son of the late Baboo Hurro Chunder Ghose, and Registrar of Calcutta, had stood security for Lab Chand, a scapegrace of a Jain hobbledohoy, to the extent of some seven lacs of Rupees, we simply refused to believe. But truth is strange, stranger than

fiction, often times. And as we have of late encountered many marvels, here, there, everywhere, we could only put our informant to the proof. He has astonished us with it. It is indeed too true that the haughty Registrar of Calcutta has assisted the Jeweller Lab Chand to come into the estate of the deceased Jeweller Kulloo Mull by binding himself in double the sum of three lacs and thirty-nine thousand Rupees. The last is the amount of the administration bond granted by Lab Chand Sett and his two sureties Baboo Pratap Chandra Ghosha and Moncelal Khundelwall in respect of the estate of Kulloo Mull.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

XVI.

AKBAR.

Akbar was only a little over thirteen years of age, when he succeeded his father as King of Cabul and Hindostan. Concurrent testimony says that he was an unusually manly and intelligent little fellow, yet he must obviously have been incapable of administering the Government of his heritage in such troublous times; so that one is not surprised to learn that the arrangement inaugurated by his father was continued: During his father's life time he had been invested with the nominal command of the army in the Punjab, but Bairam Khan was the real head of that army. So now, Akbar was proclaimed King, but Bairam held the reins of Government. This nobleman was a Turcoman by birth, and, before Humayun's expulsion from India, had been a distinguished officer under him. He did not leave India with Humayun, as he was separated from his master in the final crushing defeat of that monarch by Shir Shah. He, however, joined him three years later at Sindh, *via* Guzerat, after going through a long and remarkable series of dangers and adventures, in his efforts to rejoin his King. Thence forward he became the most trusted of Humayun's officers.

Akbar was scarcely seated on the Musund, when he was called to repel the invasion of the Punjab by Secander, the usurper of the throne of Delhi, who had been driven out by Humayun. Secander was speedily overcome and taken prisoner, when he was allowed to retire to Bengal. The credit of this success is due to Bairam Khan.

As this is a sketch of the life of Akbar, I purpose to pass over the period of Bairam's administration, merely noticing the causes that led to his downfall and to Akbar's assuming the responsibilities of government just as he was approaching manhood, by which time Bairam Khan had reached the highest pitch of power ever attained by a subject; and it soon became evident that his fall was near, for, though possessing exceptional military talents, and the boldness and vigour so necessary for maintaining subordination, in an army composed of such rude materials as Akbar's, yet he had great blemishes of character, which a state of power served to develop rapidly. His temper was harsh and severe. His manners haughty and overbearing. And so jealous was he of his authority that he exacted unbounded obedience and respect, and would not suffer the smallest pretension to power or influence, derived from any source but his favour. These traits of character gave umbrage to many, and raised up a host of enemies, and even was the cause of alienating the mind of the young King. Akbar, however, was able rightly to value the past faithful services of this able man, and only desired to throw off his dominance; which he achieved thus. He took occasion when with a hunting party, to make a quick journey to Delhi, on the plea of a sudden illness of his mother. On reaching that city, he issued an immediate proclamation, announcing that he had taken the Government into his own hands, and forbidding obedience to orders issued by any other than his own authority. This act led to an open separation between him and his minister, and all ranks now forsook the failing man to pay court to the youthful sovereign. Bairam deeply felt the blow, and so discordant was the tone of his mind at this period, that he meditated on several rash schemes for retrieving his power. Eventually he hesitated between a plan for seizing the King's person, or setting up an independent principality in Malwa. Subsequently, better thoughts prevailed, and he relinquished these projects, and started for Nagar, with the avowed intention of embarking in Guzerat, for Mecca.

At Nagor, he lingered, as if in hopes of some change in his fortunes, until he received a message from Akbar, dismissing him from his office, and directing him to proceed

forthwith on his pilgrimage. He immediately returned to the King all his insignia of office, and set out, as a private individual on his way to Guzerat. But stung by some further proceedings of Akbar, he changed his mind, collected a body of troops, and going openly into insurrection, attempted an invasion of the Punjab. Akbar moved against him in person, and sent out detachments to intercept him. He was defeated by one of these detachments, constrained to fly to the hills, and at length reduced to throw himself on the King's mercy. Akbar, with notable delicacy, sent his chief nobles to meet him at some distance, and to conduct him to the royal tent. When Bairam appeared in Akbar's presence, he threw himself at the King's feet, and, moved by former recollections, the old man sobbed aloud. Akbar instantly raised him with his own hand, seated him on his right, and, after investing him with a dress of honour, gave him his choice of one of the principal Governments under the crown, a high station at court, or an honourable dismissal for the purpose of his pilgrimage to Mecca. Bairam chose the last offer. He was assigned a liberal pension, and proceeded to Guzerat. But while he was preparing for his embarkation, he was assassinated by an Afghan.

Akbar was but a youth of eighteen, and the charge he had taken on himself seemed beyond his strength. But he possessed unusual advantages, both natural and from education. Nevertheless, he needed all his great qualities to maintain him in the position in which he had placed himself. That which made his position stable, was the design he formed at this period, and it was a truly noble design, of letting merit, irrespective of nationality or creed, be the sole ground for advancement under his Government. By such a purpose, he really placed himself at the head of the whole Indian nation, forming the inhabitants of this great land, without distinction of race or religion, into one community. This policy was pursued without deviation, throughout his reign. He admitted Hindus to every degree of power, and Mussulmans of every party to the highest stations in the service. And the consequence was, that as far as his dominions extended, they were filled with a loyal and united people.

XVII.

Akbar began his reign as master only of the Punjab and the country round Delhi and Agra. In the third year he acquired Ajmere: in the fourth he obtained possession of Gwalior: in the fifth he drove the Afghans out of Lucknow, and the country on the Ganges as far east as Jounpore; and the tide of conquest from this point flowed steadily on; there were checks received, but these checks only served to magnify the great results obtained by his arms. At this period in his history, two occurrences should be noticed, as they serve to make prominent remarkable traits in Akbar's character. Shir Shah II, a descendant of the famous Shir Shah, Humayun's successful rival, advanced with a large army to Jounpore, in the hope of recovering his dominions. He was totally defeated by the force Akbar sent against him, under the command of Khan Zeman; but this officer after the victory thought to despise the youth and feeble resources of his master, and not only withheld the king's portion of the spoil, but manifested such a high spirit of independence, that Akbar proceeded in person to the residence of the refractory nobleman, who, taken by surprise, displayed more dutiful behaviour, and was pardoned. The next case occurred in Malwa. The king sent one Adham Khan, at the head of a contingent, into Malwa, with orders to expel Baz Bahadur therefrom. Adham was successful, but he was as little disposed, as Khan Zeman had been, to part with the fruits of his victory. Akbar made a rapid march to his camp, not waiting for any open act of mutiny, and, no doubt, frustrated, by his activity, the ill-designs of his general; for, Adham Khan was unprepared for such a crisis, and immediately submitted. His offence was pardoned, but he was removed from Malwa.

Akbar had many Uzbek officers in his army, who, becoming dissatisfied, revolted under the leadership of the above-mentioned Khan Zeman, and Asaf Khan. The latter became a rebel, because he was detected embezzling. This rebellion occupied more than two years of Akbar's attention and was attended with various success. Just as he was making rapid progress towards subduing it, his attention was diverted by the invasion of the Punjab from Cabul, by his brother

Hakim. Akbar was forced to proceed to resist this invasion, and was engaged in this duty for several months. On his return, he found that the rebels had not only regained ground lost previously, but had obtained possession of the greater portion of the Subahs of Oudh and Allahabad. He marched against them at once, though it was the height of the rainy season; drove them across the Ganges; and when they thought themselves secure behind that swollen river, he made a forced march through a flooded country, swam the Ganges at nightfall, with his advance guard of less than 2,000 men, on horses and elephants, and, after lying concealed during the night, attacked the enemy at dawn, and gained a complete victory over vastly superior numbers. Akbar's reign was marked by continuous advancement, and success after success attended his arms.

On one of his marches, he met two large bodies of Hindus at a bathing ghat, and finding them prepared, according to custom, to contend sword in hand for the possession of the place, he endeavoured at first, by all possible and probable means, to bring them to reason, and to arrange an amicable settlement of the matter. But the Hindus would fight, so, at last, he permitted them to have their way and to fight it out, while he looked on at the conflict in which they immediately engaged. At length one party prevailed, and Akbar, to prevent the slaughter that would have followed, ordered his guards to stop the victors, and thus put an end to the battle.

By this time Akbar had crushed, by his vigour, all adversaries in his own territories, or had attached them to the throne by acts of clemency. He therefore was free to turn his attention to the extension of his dominions. He first came into collision with the Rajput Princes. Of these, Jeypore was already allied to him. The Rajah of Jeypore was his father-in-law, and also held high rank in the imperial army, being a commander of 5,000. Odeypore was the first place attacked, the Rana of which withdrew on the approach of the invading army. He was, for a Rajput, a man of extremely feeble character. The fort, however, was well garrisoned, and was commanded by Jei Mal, an able and courageous chief, who resolved to defend it to the last extremity, as the place was looked upon, by all Rajputs, as a sanctuary. Akbar was in command of the besieging army, and he purposed to carry the place by assault rather than by a slow siege. The breaches, however, were not to be accomplished by a battery, but by the aid of mines. In two places mines were sunk, and the storming party being prepared, fire was set to the train. The explosion of the mines was the signal for them to rush forward. There was the report of a single explosion only, when the troops in their impetuosity rushed forward, and had begun to climb the trench, when the second mine exploded, destroying many of both parties, and striking the assailants with such panic that they fled. All the operations had to be recommenced. Jei Mal was indefatigable, personally superintending the repairs, which he carried on even at night by torchlight. One night, Akbar was visiting the trenches, when he perceived Jei Mal on the works, and immediately singled him out, and shot him through the head with his own hand. On the death of the gallant Jei Mal, the garrison lost heart, abandoned the trenches, and withdrew to the interior of the fort. Akbar's soldiers mounted the ramparts unopposed. In the meanwhile, the Rajputs devoted themselves to death with the usual solemnities. The women were consigned to the flames with the body of Jei Mal, and the men rushed out to meet death from the Moslem's swords. It is stated that eight thousand Rajputs perished on this occasion. All the Rajputs, however, did not adopt this course of self-sacrifice. One body, numbering about two thousand, shrunk from the ordeal, and acted on a contrary principle: these men bound the hands of their women and children, and marched with them through the Mussulman army, who took them to be a party of their own people in charge of prisoners, and thus permitted them to pass through and escape.

Though Akbar gained possession of the fortress, he did not by this means subdue the young Rana. Rana Pertab was a young man possessed of qualities quite the opposite of those possessed by his father. Instead of being nervous and weak-minded, he was a high-spirited prince, who, though compelled to fly before the conqueror, remained independent in his fastnesses, and before Akbar's death, succeeded in regaining a great portion of his dominions.

The House of Odeypore rejected with scorn all matrimonial alliances with the Kings of Delhi, and looked upon the other Rajput Chiefs as contaminated by their intercourse with an alien race, and therefore they renounced all affinity with them. Two of Akbar's queens were of the House of Jeypore and Marwar; and the bride of his eldest son was another Rajput princess. In fact, such alliances came in time to be coveted by the Hindu Rajahs, who looked upon them as an honour, and were far from considering that such intermarriages entailed loss of caste.

JAMES H. LINTON

MONGHYR.

Jamalpur, June 12.

The Barwaree got up at Monghyr after the example set by Jamalpur, went off the other day with great pomp. The deity worshipped on the occasion, was *Bindoo Basbeenee*. The image and idols were nicely made. The puppet dancing too was good. The (Ashur) accommodation for spectators was spacious enough to admit a goodly number of people, and beautifully decorated. The reception given to the men in general was excellent.

The hired Opera party secured from Lower Bengal for a large sum did not give sufficient amusement. It was no doubt a sad disappointment.

A party of Bengalee Magicians from Calcutta were here and showed their skill in the Railway Boys' Mechanic Institute the other night. Their performance was commendable.

An ascetic by name Kebul Dass Babajee breathed his last the other day in his *Thakoor Barea* at Kesubpore in Jamalpur at a very advanced age. The people say he was a centenarian, being about 120 years old. Apart from any other virtues in the capacity of a (Sadhu) ascetic as he was, he cured several intricate cases of diseases, such as leprosy &c., by administering indigenous drugs only and his loss is mourned by a large circle of Beharees.

A fatal accident took place in the E. I. Railway Workshops here on Wednesday the 6th current. A native workman of this place, tall, good featured and robust, whilst engaged in handling a heavy brack, the handle all of a sudden gave way, striking him on the head and killing him instantaneously. It is a great pity indeed to see that these poor creatures die an untimely death through roughly handling machinery in a careless manner.

A heavy gale passing through Surjurgurrah and its environs very recently, (between Kajra and Luckeesraai stations) caused several huts to be destroyed and trees uprooted.

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Lot. 1.—All that piece of land measuring two cottahs and one square foot together with the brick built pucca house erected thereon being No. 10 Kristodass Pal's Lane Baranussy Ghose's Street Calcutta and bounded on the West by the house of Doorga Dass Naug and on the North East and South by Kristodass Pal's Lane.

Lot. 2.—All those two pieces of land together with the brick built pucca house erected thereon being No. 15 and 16 Kristodass Pal's Lane Baranussy Ghose's Street Calcutta measuring about 4½ cottahs and bounded on the East North and West by Kristodass Pal's Lane and on the South by the house of Bhoyrub Chunder Gangooly. Revenue Rupee 1-2-0 or thereabouts.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncumar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So now is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that comeliness which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1888.

} No. 330

STANZAS ON THE DEATH OF FRIEDRICH III., EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

"Among many nations there was no king like him."—*Nehemiah*.

I.

HARK ! 'tis again the min'ster's tolling bell
Proclaims the dismal message far and wide,
"The Emperor is dead !" O mournful knell !
Struck at the hearts so lately sorely tried,
When he their Father and their hero died.
O ! when that solemn knell for *him* was toll'd,
How wistful gazed the sun e'en as he spied
That fun'ral train ; "ere those loved limbs be cold,"
He sighed, "O Father, they shall lay me by thy side."

II.

Feelings are prophecies : that hour has come ;
The mourned and mourner number with the past ;
O'er every German city, tower, and home,
~~Far fiercer than the wild-tornado blast,~~
The gathered gloom of double night is cast ;
No sigh escapes within a scene so dread ;
No eye weeps more, that wept ere this full fast ;
A rev'rent awe holds every breath instead ;
There is a dreadful pause around the holy dead !

III.

Yet while the gathered gaze upon that brow,
Cold, dull, the rays of royalty withdrawn
Those eyes, no more to watch the weal or woe
Of Germany ; the tide of grief rushed on,
The people wept, the warriors wept anon ;
"Fritz, lieber Fritz," burst forth from every tongue,
"Alas our Fritz, thou gone—for ever gone !"
So thus the stricken nation, loud and long,
Around the lonely palace wept, by sorrow wrung.

IV.

Yet ere the diadem begirt his brow,
And ere imperial robes his form array'd,
"Death marked him for its own ;" ye knew as now,
The crown hid not the seal of Death, nor play'd
Its dazzling gems that Death may be delay'd
Or blinded by their glare—drawn to its head
The arrow by the arm of death was stay'd
Awaiting for the hour the prince was led
To Glory's highest seat, when straight it fatal sped !

V.

But O, what high-reared hopes are overthrown !
What disappointment deep for years of fame !
And thou, fair Empress of a day ! how lone
Thy heart ! how false and empty sounds thy name !
Yet thine a higher boast—each high, each lowly dame
The virtues of a tried and perfect wife
In thee their brightest, best example claim :
We saw thy love how strong to calm the strife
That Death was waging with thy noble husband's life.

VI.

O Royal Flower of England ! lowly bent
Beneath the dewy tears of grief, arise !
For in thy sorrow feelings high be bent ;
The martyr now has pass'd into the skies ;
Yet nothing of his glory with him dies ;
His name among the first on Hist'ry's page
Shall catch each emulative hero's eyes ;
Nor length of time, nor any envious age,
Shall blot the name of Fritz—the hero, martyr, sage !

VII.

O thou, young scion of a noble Sire !
What grand, what awful duties now are thine !
Thou hope, thou promise of a great Empire !
With thy heroic ancestors combine ;
Perpetuate the honour of thy line ;
And yet a higher task as good as grand,
In thee may all our German virtues shine,
May all thy people be a happy band,
And God be ever with thee, GERMAN FATHERLAND !
C. THIELMANN.

June 16.

TO MATTHEW ARNOLD.

FROM EDWIN ARNOLD.

Suffer that—as thou takest boat to cross
Grim Charon's stream, on voyage, heavy loss
To England—but to thee gain manifold—
I pluck thee by the shroud, and press thy cold
Forgetful hand ; to lay this obolus
Into its honoured palm ! Ah ! think on us
In thy new walks upon the Asphodel ;
Nor quite forsake the sad sphere where we dwell,
Fighting thy battle, lending our small stress
To "stream which maketh unto Righteousness" !
Now, that thou better knowest friends and foes,
Good Friend ! dear Rival ! bear no grudge to those
Who had not time, in Life's hard fight to show
How well they liked thee for thy "slashing blow" ;
How "sweet" thy "reasonableness" seemed ; how right
Thy lofty pleading for the long dimmed "light" !
Thou, that didst bear my Name, and deck it so
That—coming thus behind—hardly I know
If I shall hold it worthily, and be
Meet to be mentioned in one Age with thee—
Take, Brother ! to the Land where no strifes are,
This praise thou wilt not need ! Before the Star
Is kindled for thee let my funeral torch
Light thee, dear Namesake ! to th'Elysian Porch ;
Dead Poet ! let a poet of thy House
Lay, unproved, these bay-leaves on thy brow !
We, that seemed only friends, were lovers : Now
Death knows it ! and Love knows ! and I ! and Thou !

EDWIN ARNOLD.

April 15, 1888.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

VERILY, it is the day of jubilation on any conceivable pretext. The tercentenary of the Spanish Armada was lately celebrated in England. The total failure of that great invasion and destruction of the invading fleet, is the turning point in the history of the nation. It was just the vent to unite all England in a burst of patriotic jubilation. Who would not listen when the call is—

Attend all ye who list to hear our noble England's praise,
I tell of the thrice famous deeds she wrought in ancient days.
When that great fleet invincible against her bore in vain
The richest spoils of Mexico, the stoutest hearts of Spain.

Yet, for want of proper management, the celebration was a miserable affair, rendered more disreputable by the abuse lavished on the occasion on the Catholics and Popery.

ONE would have thought that by this the British could not bear the name of Irish, so much have they suffered from the men, manners, and matters of the sister island, during the last several years. They are far from tired of the Irish yet. They are getting up an Irish Exhibition in the very heart of their metropolis. It will be distinctively Irish, we are told, and thoroughly national we suppose. There will be a real Irish village on the scene, and already a true son of Ould Oireland, though an Irish peer, is active in realising the project. The whole would fitly end with a Donnybrook Fair. With the Irish element already in the great city, not to take into account that of the great towns of Lancashire, Lord Leitrim and his compatriots on the Committee will not have to go far, nor experience much difficulty, in giving the final national finish.

COLONEL OLCOTT having climbed up the Neilgheries to Ooty, must bring himself down to the level of that fashionable resort. He delivered a Lecture at Snowdon House on the congenial subject of "The Noble Army of Ghosts and their Mansions." These mansions were formerly understood to be in the Himalayas. Have the spirits tired of their old residences and moved South? The whole thing was in keeping. Old Colonel Hughes Hallett presided, ladies patronised, and for a lady's benefit the *seance* was held.

THE other day the *Indian Mirror* spoke of Tulsidas as among the authorities in the medical literature of India. The *Lucknow Express* just received contains an account of the buried city of Sravasti identified by General Cunningham with Set Met, a village near the residence of the Maharaja of Bulrampore in the District of Gonda, in which mention is twice made of a Chinese Traveller with the classical-looking name of Fabian.

THE oldest journalist in Europe is an Englishman who, for his political services, has been knighted. We refer, of course, to Sir Edward Baines, of Leeds, who commenced his newspaper career some three years after the battle of Waterloo, and is still at it. He is indeed the Patriarch of the Press.

THE following from an English paper is going round :—

"At the beginning of last year, English barristers had rather a rough time of it; their little ways of taking fees for services they never performed were dwelt upon by the members of 'the lower branch of the profession' with considerable pertinacity. The gentlemen of the long robe tided over it, and are now having their innings. There is scarcely a week in which, in some law court or another, a 'solcr' does not catch it from the bench for neglect of duty to his client. The following is a story which, it is reasonable to suppose, emanates from one who wears a wig. A client requesting his solicitor Mr. A., to bring about an interview with his counsel, Mr. B., the three met together, and B., having been put into possession of the facts of the case, expressed his opinion that it had not a leg to stand upon, and that they had much better not go into court. The client acquiesced, and A. and B. walked away together. 'What on earth made you give the man such advice as that?' inquired A. indignantly. B.: 'Because I am certain that he has no case.' A.: 'Good heavens—as if that were any reason!' B.: 'I think it a very good one. Why, what would you have said to your client if—as was certain to happen—we had been beaten all round, and had to pay heavy costs, I should like to know?' A.: 'Well, I'll tell you. I should have told him that the judge was a fool, and that the jury were fools, but that you were the greatest fool of all!'"

That is not a bad revenge for the insolence with which the brief-proud lawyer treats the junior branch of the profession which feeds him.

THE *Daily News's* London Correspondence contains this curious news, which might easily be attributed to the debauch on the Armada Jubilee:

"There is a proposal on foot to celebrate the two-hundredth anniversary of the Pope's birth-day with a festival," &c.

A young father is ordinarily a reproach. A young Holy Father would be a shocking anomaly. As a matter of fact, the anomaly does not shock, being not. As a rule, Popes are old men, and they go on advancing in years hale and hearty. It is but fitting. They have the vitality of the Church which they represent and rule—the same tenacity of life. They are no less Patriarchs than their rivals of the Eastern Churches, and they do well to be long-lived. But though they frequently threaten to do so, they never attain patriarchal length of days.

WE read in our contemporaries :—

"At the Sudder Court of Indore on Monday last, Khema Naique, the *bunjara* charged with harbouring the notorious Tantia, was sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment."

That shows little appreciation of the functions of the different Courts. Sudder Courts do not usually pass sentence, and Indore is very well provided with a complete judicial machinery after the British model. In fact, their radical defect is perhaps a too slavish copying of the British organization.—The poor Naique had appealed against the sentence of the lower court and his appeal was rejected on Monday the 25th June.

"A correspondent of a Kurrachee paper writes: 'The other day while Dr. Pollen was walking in the streets of Mirpur Mathelo, he met a man riding a terribly galled jackass. He stopped the man and remonstrated with him, and when a crowd gathered round him, he pointed out to them how cruel it was to torture dumb animals in that fashion. He threatened to take the offender before the magistrate. By this time quite a representative crowd, consisting of the village *mukhi* and the punchayet among the rest, had assembled, and the *mukhi* intervened on behalf of the offending man and begged the saheb to pardon him. Said the saheb, 'the man did not hurt me, and I cannot pardon him. Let him ask the donkey's pardon if he likes.' Whereupon the *mukhi* and the offender both prostrated themselves before the ass, and the animal, struck no doubt with the unwonted humility of his torturer, brayed out some distinct notes of forgiveness, as the crowd understood it. Afterwards the crowd dispersed, pleased with the pleasant termination of what had threatened to be a serious trouble."

And is that all? Surely, it is ass all over. This ass business started well, but the braying was an ominous ending, evidently affecting, more or less, all the humans concerned. We are sorry for Dr. Pollen, of whom we expected better than to think he would so easily collapse. For as much as he is neither tyrant nor bully, and showed a disposition to knock the poor villagers down to justice and humanity to the lower animals, we truly respect him. But that an Indian Civilian should subside under the assinine pantomime of the *mukhi* and the donkey-rider, is humiliating. These Sind villagers might be of a literal Scotch type of mind, but it is just possible that they simply humbugged the "Heaven born." It was certainly a good joke, whether conscious or unconscious, their taking the British Pandit of the Civil Service at his word. It is not unlikely, however, that European forgiveness being usually a matter of form—a social convention, rarely meant in earnest—Dr. Pollen was satisfied with the men begging the donkey's pardon in the native fashion. He should have taken some sort of a guarantee—even a bare promise—that the poor animal was not worked or maltreated.

It is perhaps as well for even the general reader to know that—

"The greatest known depth of the ocean is midway between the Island of Tristan d'Acunha and the mouth of the Rio de La Plata. The bottom was here reached at a depth of 46,236 feet or eight and three-fourth miles, exceeding by more than 17,000 feet the height of Mount Everest, the loftiest mountain in the world. In the North Atlantic Ocean, south of New Foundland, soundings have been made to a depth of 4,580 fathoms of 27,480 feet; while depth equalling 34,000 feet, or six and one-half miles, is reported south of Bermuda Islands. The average depth of the Pacific Ocean between Japan and California, is a little over 2,000 fathoms; between Chili and the Sandwich Islands, 2,500 fathoms; and between Chili and New Zealand, 1,500 fathoms. The average depth of all the oceans is from 2,000 to 3,000 fathoms."

MR. H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON having obtained furlough, Mr. C. J. Lyall, C. I. E., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, officiates for him as Judge and Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts, while Mr. F. C. Daukes acts the Secretary.

MR. J. G. H. GLASS, Executive Engineer 1st Grade, has been appointed Superintending Engineer and Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, in the Public Works Department.

THE Gilchrist Trustees, unwilling "to sever their connection with the Educational advancement of India," have decided to continue the Scholarship "for the present and until further notice on the same conditions as heretofore." It will be "offered again on the result of the Matriculation Examination of the University of London, which will be held as usual in India in January next 1889." The Trustees are Richard Leigh Holland, Esq., (Chairman), Rt. Hon. Lyon Playfair, C. B., M. P., LL. D., F. R. S., Sir Ughtred James Kay-Shuttleworth, Bart., and the Hon. Alfred Lyttleton. All communications are to be addressed to the Secretary, (Mr. Henry A. Papps), 4, the Sanctuary, London, S. W.

This Scholarship, like the Degrees and other Academical Rewards of the University of London, is open to women equally with men. It is of the value of £150 per annum, tenable for four years in Great Britain "with a view to Graduation, in one of the Faculties of Arts, Science, Law, or Medicine, in the University of London." Further particulars will be found in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*, June 23, 1888, and the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 27th, Part I.

THERE will be an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition in Mysore in October next. It will be opened at Mysore at 8 A.M., on the 15th, and will continue for four days. There will be prizes, of course, and they will be distributed at the close of the Show. "In addition to the money prize each winner of a prize will be entitled to a certificate. Medals equivalent in value to the money prize may be awarded at the option of the prize-winner." Besides, "Honorable mention" will be awarded. The highest prize—Rs. 100—has been reserved for the "best and most economical arrangements for raising water for irrigation purposes, suitable to rayyets of average means."

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 23rd June, 1888, amounted to £3,463,300, the Budget estimate for the year ending 31st March 1889, being £14,000,000.

THE Entrance, F. A., and B. A. Examinations of 1889 will commence on Monday, the 11th February. Candidates should apply on or before the 28th December.

WHITE Cooke against Black cook is the latest sensation, legal and social, in Mhow.

What are we coming to? On the 10th June, Major Cooke, paymaster, 6th Dragoons, before a crowded court, besieged by a vast number of eager visitors, native and European, appeared to prosecute his *barwarchi*—not for poisoning him with copper from untinned utensils, or bad *cuisine*, or theft of meat and condiments, but for—let us say, lost prestige. He complained in fact, of a—black eye, and invoked the vengeance of the law or the magistrate on the formidable fellow who was the author of his injury. Formerly, the Whiteman would give a handsome *Bakshish* to the blackman who gave him a black eye.

PARIS with a population of less than 2,000,000, contains 20 centenarians (11 men + 9 women) and 6,386 octogenarians. We wonder how many are there in Calcutta. Now we are nearing the verge, the question has for us more than a public interest.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

MR. DILLON'S conviction naturally caused great irritation in the Home Rule Party. The astute leaders of the Party were not of course slow to perceive in the incident their opportunity for political capital. As soon as the conviction was confirmed on appeal, Mr. Gladstone, the Grand Patron of the Party, gave notice of motion for a vote of censure on the Ministry, founded on the whole working of the Coercion Act in Ireland, and the Government fixed last Monday for the debate. Accordingly, on the evening of the 25th, the debate came on. But, instead of Mr. Gladstone, the attack was led by his Lieutenant, the Grand Old Man reserving himself for any contingency. The orders of the day being postponed, Mr. John Morley rose and moved the vote of censure, in an intemperate speech, charging the Government with brutality in working the Crimes Act and actually accusing them of intending to murder a political opponent by imprisoning Mr. Dillon. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied, apparently without noticing Mr. Morley's

wild language, insisting on the value of the Act in suppressing agrarian crimes, and asserting that its working had been restoring the people's confidence in the reign of law. The debate was resumed next evening, when Mr. Gladstone appeared as an active combatant on the field. He seems to have made no great point, confining himself, for the most part, to criticising the conduct of certain Magistrates in Ireland, who seem to be a well-known Indian type. Of course, he was severe on the Government for the treatment to which the Honourable Member for East Mayo (Mr. John Dillon) had been subjected, under the provisions of the Act for the repression of discreditable and dangerous offences in Ireland. The Chief Secretary, in closing the debate, maintained that the policy of Government in Ireland had proved far more of a success than they had ventured to hope for, although, of course, much remains to be accomplished. On the House dividing, the motion was lost, 273 voting for and 362 against it.

The result shows the Ministry strong. The *entente cordiale* between the sober Liberals and the Conservatives, which brought it to power and maintains it, continues. Mr. Gladstone, by his impatient rashness, simply courted defeat and thereby injured his party for nothing. It is a wonder that the cooler judgment of his Grand Vizier—Mr. Morley—did not dissuade his Chief from plunging the party into a premature engagement. Is it possible they relied a great deal too much upon the effect of Lord Randolph Churchill's recent damaging evidence against his former colleagues? There was more danger to the Ministry from the growing impatience of the British of the long continuance of power in the same hands. It were a pity to change the present Administration, until the experiment on which the Government were engaged in Ireland was concluded, one way or the other. Instead of disturbing them, the true policy of enlightened patriotism should be to support them in establishing the reign of law in Ireland once for all, before discussing the future. That is precisely what we grieve to see the Radicals pledged to Irish Home Rule are not doing. Apart from the Irish bone of contention, the Ministry has been generally reasonable, scarcely excepting foreign politics on which Lord Salisbury was understood to be uncompromising and extreme. As regards India, we have little to hope from a Liberal Ministry in the immediate future.

THE Gladstonians are up for Eutopia and revolution in any direction. They supported the mischievous Channel Tunnel scheme. Luckily, the House of Commons are not yet prepared to take this great leap in the dark, and rejected the Bill by 142 votes.

WE do not usually deal in *on dits* and inchoate movements. But we have heard a rumour much too important to withhold. The reader cannot yet have forgotten how some foolish and unprincipled politicians were, day after day, abusing the Viceroy in the wildest terms, not only for what he had done but also for what they knew he had contemplated. Notwithstanding his repeated assurances, in public and private, of sympathy with the aspirations of the people, Lord Dufferin was accused of harbouring the darkest designs against their liberties. In specific terms he was charged with having urged the Home Government to sanction a policy of repression. And the charge was persisted in, after it was contradicted. Notwithstanding, it was believed in well-informed circles that, so far from doing anything of the kind, Lord Dufferin had done just the opposite. It was even understood that he had recommended a large measure of constitutional reform and had received an acknowledgment from the Home Government, which enemies would call a wiggling. There was little doubt that the irreconcilables of the Bengali press was doing the Viceroy shocking injustice. It would seem that he generously forgave the injury and persisted in his liberal scheme. At that time it seems he had not the full support of the Council, and probably advantage was taken of that fact to put him off. Better counsels have since prevailed, and now a general recommendation has, we believe, gone for reconstituting the several Legislative Councils on a more liberal basis, on a formal recognition of the principle of representation.

IMPERIAL Delhi, great even in her fall, has taken the shine out of the rest of the Empire, on the melancholy occasion of the death of the Emperor of Germany. The people of the great City held a large meeting, in the Town Hall, to mourn over the sad bereavement of our sovereign in the loss of her most eminent and renowned Imperial son-in-law Frederick III. A Prince of the Imperial House of Timour

fittingly presided at this demonstration of sorrow of the Imperial City for the death of a great Emperor, who was so dear to our Empress of India. He was no figure-head of a chairman, but expressed himself on the topic before the meeting with the eloquence and finished Urdu of a Prince of the Mahomedan Athens of India. He concluded with proposing a humble address of condolence to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Empress of India, on the sad event. He was seconded in befitting terms by Khan Bahadur Syad Hadi Hassan. The motion was carried by acclamation. Other cities and towns should not lose time in following this prompt example.

MR. SCONE returns to duty in the Calcutta Small Cause Court, next Monday. Mr. Jones consequently goes back to his own place as third Judge, Mr. Chatterjee acts the fourth, and Baboo Jodoonath Roy reverts to his own at Sealdah.

MR. O. BEEBY, Barrister-at-law, seems to have established a kind of lien on Government employment. He more than once officiated as a Judge in the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, but there being no vacancy there at present, he is to be provided elsewhere. Mr. Kilby, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, goes on leave from 14th July to 9th October next. Mr. Beeby will during this period deputy-superintend the legal affairs of Government. Heaven help the Government!

SOAP is not a bad thing at all. It may be a very good thing indeed—specially to fashionable painters in these days when Art has penetrated to the crowded stalls in the busy market-place, where it is used, and used up, as a sort of barmaid to draw. A veteran artist, Sir John Millais, has painted for the grand Savonjees, Messrs Pears, for a trade-mark, a picture worthy of his reputation. It was perhaps a desecration of High Art, a degradation of genius, to play itself into the hands of low Traffic and help in the tricks of trade, but grand sunsets are not even manna, much less meat and drink, and High Art cannot live upon clouds and rainbows, and artists are, after all, men, specially fashionable painters. If the Pears have succeeded in their object, they have made an adequate sacrifice. The great Savonjees have caught their whale with a magnificent bait of nearly thirty thousand Rupees of Indian money (£2,000.)

WE have not long read anything from Europe so captivating as the following evidence of good Samaritanism. It refers to the passage of the *Abdel Kader*, French steam boat, from Marseilles to Algeria.

"Just as the vessel was about two hours out the skies became quite black with swallows. It was then about six o'clock in the evening. The birds alighted in thousands on the sails, ropes, and yards of the *Abd-el-Kader*. After a pecky survey of the deck from their eminence aloft they descended coolly on deck, hopped about among the sailors and passengers, and eventually found their way into the cabins both fore and aft. The birds were evidently fatigued, after a long flight, and allowed themselves to be caught by the people of the ship, who gave them a welcome reception, and provided them with food, which they enjoyed heartily. The little winged strangers remained all night on the vessel, and in the morning at seven o'clock, the head look out bird had, no doubt, sighted the Balearic Isles, for the whole flock made for land, after having spent a comfortable and refreshing night on boardship."

What a relief to know that they did not bring out their guns and shoot the poor tired bodies!

These good seamen fed and sheltered little angels unawares. Such is the light in which our Hindu imagination—*pice* Mr. Townsend in the *Contemporary*—loves to regard the little incident. The hospitality shown by the French sailors to the feathered strangers will, we are persuaded, stand them in better stead than all their prayers and all the fasts and vigils and self-torture enjoined by the Church.

THEY are trying in England to introduce mechanical appliances to tramways, whereby straying into the rails may be saved from a horrible death. There was lately an experiment at Birmingham with India rubber imitations of little specimens of the human breed under the designation of "child catchers"—the imitations being so called, of course, not the specimens. But it was not considered quite satisfactory. They will try again, doubtless. In the meantime, will somebody introduce on the Indian ways "horse preservers"? In the awful weather through which we have passed, how mercilessly were dumb creatures of God tortured for the convenience of man! In fact, it is unfair and immoral to lay such burdens on the poor beasts. The humanity of the land ought to interfere in behalf of those who are

unable to speak. The Government and legislature are indifferent to a wrong which no Societies are pledged to remove and no press cares to expose. What are the practical difficulties of steam?

IT would seem that there is a body in Calcutta called the Arya Samaj. This Society has been exercised about the contents and drift of the ancient scriptures of the Hindus, the Veda. The leading spirits are apparently orthodox Hindus according to the orthodoxy of the day, that is, worshippers of Divinity in the forms of gods and goddesses—idolaters in fact—unburdened with extensive knowledge of their sacred books and unembarrassed by metaphysical difficulties. They were not allowed peace, however, being assailed by impertinent doubters, within and without the ranks of Hindu society. They were confronted by a growing opinion that the Veda of their veneration do not propound or support the prevailing system of polytheism. Till this heresy was demolished, there was little hope of the propagation of popular Hinduism or of recalling those members of Hindu society who, whether from the effect of education or the influence of foreigners, are daily being alienated from the hereditary faith.

As a Society for the diffusion of the gospel of Hinduism, they found it necessary, as a first step, before undertaking any operations, to prove that Hinduism as popularly understood and practised, had its warrant in the Veda. They seem to be all business men or ordinary men not belonging to the learned class or the theological or ecclesiastical profession, and they have gone about it in a business way. Accordingly, they invited a tender. They advertised in the *Statesman*, through their Secretary, offering to pay Rs. 5,000 to any one who would prove image worship—*Sakaropasana*—from the Veda. We see that the challenge has been accepted, or at least one gentleman has answered the invitation. Under the head of Durbhunga, a letter appears in the *Tirhoot Courier* of the 27th from Ambica Dutt Vyas, who sends a copy of his letter to the Secretary of the Arya Samaj, Calcutta, offering to do the required thing, provided the Rs. 5,000 is deposited in bank till the controversy is decided.

AFTER repeated condonation, Canteen Sergeant Ernest Augustus Culley, of the 17th Lancers, prayed for a divorce for his wife's (Elizabeth Anne Cully) adultery with Sergeant-Major William Merry and Troop Sergeant Holland Turton, of the same regiment. The Judicial Commissioner of Oudh considered the adultery proved against Merry and ordered dissolution of marriage, subject to confirmation by the High Court. Before the matter came up there—before Chief Justice Sir John Edge and Justices Brodhurst and Mahmood—the parties had made up their differences and were man and wife again. An application was therefore made not to confirm the lower Court's order. Whereupon, the Chief Justice delivered a somewhat long and lucid judgment, which has been summarised as follows. He said that—

"he would have had no difficulty as to the course to be pursued had it not been for a doubt of one of his learned brother Judges on the Bench. In his opinion they should deal with this as with all other cases between private litigants, and the Court should not go out of its way, and uninvited, to press a decree without any motion being made in Court. Here the two parties who were the persons most interested—namely, the husband and wife—asked the Court by holding its hand not to dissolve the marriage, which they were willing, should continue. His lordship could not understand why they should be in a worse position by appearing before the Court with such a request than they would have been had they gone on and cohabited after the passing of the decree *nisi* and had brought that fact to the notice of the Court. The decree *nisi* did not dissolve the marriage until the rule was made absolute. Indeed, until the time had elapsed for appeal to the Privy Council, the parties continued to be for all purposes man and wife. If a petitioner or a respondent in the case, before the marriage had been actually dissolved, should marry, he or she would be liable to a conviction for bigamy. Should they come together after the decree *nisi* and cohabit before the marriage was so actually dissolved, the petitioner in that case by cohabiting with the respondent would condone the adultery which was in the present case the basis of the decree *nisi*. It had been suggested that it was their duty to go on and consider the case on the merits, *i. e.*, on the evidence on the record in the Court below, and to consider if the decree was properly obtained and if so, to make it absolute here; that although the wife had repented, and although the husband was willing to condone the adulterous acts of his wife and take her back to live with him, their Lordships, sitting as a Court of Justice, were bound, contrary to the wishes of the parties, to pass a decree absolute against the parties, who were anxious that the marriage should continue. References had been made to capital cases which the Court had to consider, even in the absence of the parties, whether a capital conviction should be confirmed. That was a provision which had been made by statute for the protection of a subject, and for the protection of a subject as against the Crown. He could not see how the duties of the Court in such confirmation cases could throw any light upon the duties of this Court in civil actions.

Reference had also been made to the Ajmere Act, an Act he was not familiar with, but which he understood was an Act which enabled a judicial authority in Ajmere to invoke the assistance of this Court on questions of law which might arise there. Similar power was given to the Judges of the Small Cause Courts. In the Ajmere Act it expressly provided that the parties need not appear, and he assumed that the persons who framed that Act thought there was a necessity for that expressed provision. But, even whether those views were expressed or not in the Act, he failed to see how the duties of this Court on references of the Ajmere Court, or the Small Cause Court Act, or under the Stamp Act could apply. The object of those references was that this Court, as the highest judicial authority in these Provinces, should assist the Commissioner of Ajmere or Judge of the Small Cause Court, as the case may be, on points of law on which the difficulty arose. Looking at the Divorce Act itself under Section 16, in cases in which the High Court has itself passed a decree *nisi*, it was provided that the High Court should fix a time, at the expiration of which a decree absolute may be made. It was expressly provided that if the petitioner did not apply in a reasonable time to have the decree *nisi* made absolute, the High Court might dismiss the suit. His Lordship had not a shadow of doubt that they had power to accede to the application, and that it was an application to which, in the interests of justice and of morality, they should accede. Suppose this Court made the decree *nisi* absolute, what would be the effect? After the time had expired for appeal to the Privy Council, these parties would cease to be man and wife, and they could the next day go and be re-married. In the meantime, the Court, by making the decree *nisi* absolute, would be keeping these parties in suspense until that time had expired with no possible object. In his Lordship's opinion the only order they could pass now was that the Court do not confirm the decree *nisi* of the 21st December against these parties."

That is conclusive from the point of English law, and we wonder how Mr. Justice Mahmood, who we believe was the dissenting Judge, could hold out against the logic. Had the question been one of Hindu Law, the Chief Justice's argument would not have been to the purpose. The principle of that Law is the preservation of purity of blood, and such condonation as that of the parties in this case goes against the Hindu grain. The Mahomedan Law too, with its *Idlut*, is against the confusion of paternity.

THE British Indian Association had packed off their Secretary to Simla to lay its objections, legal and other, against the Municipal Bill, before the authorities. According to the *Englishman* and the *Bengalee*, the Sarbadhicari deputation has proved unsuccessful, the Viceroy having assented to the Bill. Our contemporaries are premature in their announcement. So far as our information goes, the Viceroy is prepared to give his assent, but he would like to have the preliminary objection taken to the Bill on the ground of want of authority to alter the boundaries of Calcutta even for a municipal purpose, cleared up. Accordingly, the Advocate-General has been asked to give his opinion.

IN another column will be found a letter which gives a glimpse of curious practices in the Viceroy's Private Secretariat. We mean to return to the subject.

THE weather has been much cooler this week, and bearable. But the terrible heat was not reserved for us only. At Simla, the heat has been excessive—unusual for that station. In the language of an eminent member of the society of that place, writing in private under date the 25th, "the weather up here is unexceptionally hot." A private letter from Etawa of the 20th, the writer being a highly respectable member of native society in the Delhi country, says—

"This is an exceedingly hot place and the houses here burn like furnace all the day long. Although I have several tathies working at this time, yet the thermometer is 99° in my room, which I call tolerably cool. It is fearful outside. I never venture to go out of my room much before 7 P. M., and even then I feel quite scorched in the face. One must however have some fresh air even though it may be scorching."

It is cheering to turn to Ajmere, whence a high European officer privately writes on the 20th June—

"The hot weather here though very warm at times is very dry and not trying."

A TRAVELLER from Koostea to Sealdia this week observed that rain was badly wanted—the crops—rice and jute—were dry, and that the former was likely to suffer.

It is widely rumoured in town that there will be no water supply for four days. In consequence, there is a larger sale of earthen vessels for storing water. No foundation, however, exists for the rumour.

Holloway's Pills.—Sudden transitions from heat to cold, or from raw inclement weather to oppressive climates, favour the development of manifold diseases, which may in most instances be checked and rendered abortive by an early resort to these purifying, regulating, and strengthening Pills. This well-known and highly esteemed medicine affords a safe and ready remedy for almost every constitutional wrong which unhealthy climates, rapid changes, or dietetic errors, can engender, and effectually removes any weakness self-indulgent habits may have induced. In all conditions of the system bordering on disease such as are indicated by apathy, listlessness, and restlessness, Holloway's Pills will prove especially serviceable in begetting the vivacity of mind and body appreciated by both sound and sick.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1888.

DEATH ON BOARD FROM POISONOUS GAS.

THE "moving accident" of the week was one by flood. And in the sum total of its lamentable result, it was sufficient to rouse the very stones of Rome or London or Calcutta to rise and mutiny against the system to which such a calamity was due. It was a massacre of innocents on the high sea, the victims being of the unsuspecting crew. The hecatomb was offered on board one of the well-known Clan line. In the *Clan Macintosh's* passage to Madras, on the 16th June, the Chief Steward went down with two native servants to the provision store for the week's rations of the native crew. All three were asphyxiated as soon as they reached the hold, while a man who stood on the second deck, ready to receive the rations as they might be handed over to him, fell down into the hold. This sudden and extraordinary fall attracted the notice of the fireman, who accordingly reported the matter to the Second Officer. Mr. Macpherson, the Second Officer, immediately got a lamp and went down, but the lamp was suddenly extinguished and he fell insensible. Then the First Officer, Mr. Shortland, got down provided with slings and removed Macpherson. He again went down to look after the others, and himself fell dead alongside of them. By this time, the cause of the successive deaths became plain, and there was no indiscreet haste to enter the fatal hold. Measures were doubtless taken to consume the deadly gas and purify the atmosphere of the bowels of the vessel. Then the bodies of the poor victims were brought up on the upper deck. They were five in number, Williams and Shortland, and three native seamen. The bodies were thrown into the sea, after the usual ceremonies. Mr. Macpherson recovered. Several others had a narrow escape. The men, who after all went down to search and haul up the bodies of the five victims, encountered no ordinary risk in the heroic discharge of ordinary duty. They abandoned all hope of life when they descended down the valley of death in that steamer's hold, and escaped by the skin of their teeth, so to say.

THE DANIEL OF BATNA.

MR. KIRKWOOD is an old sinner and obviously incorrigible. Under any other system of government, he would long since have been deprived of the opportunity for mischief. The stuff of which he is made, was long since disclosed. Early enough in his official career, he was found out, but *cui bono*? He belonged to the governing Civilian brotherhood, for whom there is no punishment. There was no check even, properly so-called, and no watch kept. So he went on, developing and acquiring notoriety as a cantankerous *Zubberdust*—a Magistrate who was a law unto himself and had scant respect even for his superiors in office, not excepting the highest. These Kirkwoods and Beameses have the quality of history of repeating themselves! Throughout all changes of scene or situation, they maintain their identity. What Mr. Kirkwood was in Orissa, that he was in Chittagong, and now in another and a distant part of the country, in Behar he is the self-same Kirkwood.

He arrived in India in 1863. How he comported himself in the early years, we cannot now recall and have neither time nor inclination to inquire. He

must have been laying the foundation of his after renown. It is certain that, after a maturity of eight years in the public service, in 1871, he challenged public notice by his conduct as Magistrate in Orissa. It was so gross that even the rule of practical immunity for the members of the European Covenanted Service, had, in very decency we suppose, to be departed from, in order to make an example of him. Even this measure of justice was perhaps due to Sir George Campbell. Whatever his other eccentricities, and however great his partiality in favour of European officials, specially those of the Covenanted Civil Service, that Lieutenant-Governor was a disciplinarian, and he reluctantly passed the severe censure on Mr. Kirkwood for "the highly irregular character of his proceedings in Orissa," and removed him from the District. Mr. Kirkwood was not the man to submit so easily, without a tussle with the great Autocrat of Belvedere himself. He was keenly conscious of his being an Indian Civilian and of all that is implied in the term. He believed in the Creed that a Civilian can do no wrong, unless perhaps he became a Lieutenant-Governor—for Sir George Campbell belonged to the same service with him—and he knew that he could never be punished. And he took full advantage of the privilege. Accordingly, he hurled at the head of the Lieutenant-Governor a sort of defiance in the shape of a critique on the Censure. Sir George Campbell's opinion of Mr. Kirkwood's letter was that it "shews an indisposition to accept instructions and orders in a proper spirit, and an inclination to a controversial style of correspondence which affords little hope for the future."

"Affords little hope for the future," deliberately thought the Lieutenant-Governor. And yet he was left in a position of great responsibility, without due control, over myriads of Her Majesty's subjects without guarantee, and without proper steps for watch and ward. He was even promoted, as if in approval of "the highly irregular character of his proceedings in Orissa" and his highly insubordinate conduct. Accordingly, he soon enough again brought himself to the fore in a characteristic way. Towards the middle of 1876, he was, as Magistrate and Collector, head of the important frontier District of Chittagong. He has left an undying reputation in that quarter. His folly and high-handedness soon showed themselves. Wrong-headed, without command over temper, impatient, reckless of consequences, he at last caused a consternation among the people. The finishing touch was given by his persecution of a local notable and most popular citizen, the late Baboo Lal Chand Chowdry, a liberal Zemindar and public-spirited gentleman, who held, by gift of the Crown, the offices of a Municipal Commissioner and Honorary Magistrate. Him he insulted at a meeting of the Municipal Commissioners, at which Mr. Kirkwood presided, turning him out of it, because this flower of British delicacy and scrupulosity could not sit in the same room with a man, who, as he had there and then been told in an informal way, before the Baboo's appearance, had, on a previous day, made a stump oration in coarse vernacular, he being a man of no education risen from the ranks, though estimable withal. He was reminded by an English gentleman that he was giving the Baboo an insult by forcing him to clear out, and he maintained that he was doing it on purpose! Thereupon, Sir Richard Temple, then Lieutenant-Governor, remarked—

"The Lieutenant-Governor finds that Mr. Kirkwood treated Lal

Chand on this occasion in a manner which ought not to have been adopted by the head of the district towards a Municipal Commissioner. It is not to be expected that native gentlemen of position would serve as Municipal Commissioners if such instances were to become common. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that that they are very rare."

The insult was followed up by the wrong of the next day, when Mr. Kirkwood, without any excuse whatever, had poor Lal Chand arrested on seven trumpery charges. Those who were at Chittagong in 1876 still remember the consternation caused by these tyrannical proceedings. The local bar was paralysed by dread of the great Magistrate. Fortunately for Lal Chand, he was a man of property, and he poured out his money freely to save his liberty and what wreck now remained of his honor under the iron sway of Kirkwood. He telegraphed for advice and assistance to Calcutta. Mr. Manomohun Ghose left for Chittagong. But it was a long journey. Meanwhile, the Magistrate was applied for time to allow of Mr. Ghose's coming, but Mr. Kirkwood would not grant it. Nor would he transfer the case to another Magistrate who was not so intimately concerned in it. Then Lal Chand moved the Judge to call for the record. He gave a patient hearing and finally, on the 15th May, in the language of the Government Resolution,

"recorded a judgment to the effect that having gone carefully through the case, he had failed to find any evidence in support of the charges framed, or to perceive how the evidence could be held to bear any construction favorable to the case for the prosecution, which had been instituted and carried on by Mr. Kirkwood in person, and that it appeared to him, the Judge, 'that framing charges which are entirely unsupported by evidence, and calling on a defendant to answer to them, was unlawful.'"

With every disposition to leniency, the Lieutenant-Governor, on a careful review of the matters, was

"constrained to hold that Mr. Kirkwood's proceedings were hasty and ill-judged, and shewed great want of proper discretion and reasonable care in the exercise of the extensive powers which have been conferred upon him by law."

On most of the other points judgment went against Mr. Kirkwood. We have space only for the final deliverance.

"Having repeatedly considered the subject, the Lieutenant-Governor is obliged reluctantly to hold that Mr. Kirkwood is amenable to grave censure, and has been found to be so far in the wrong as to render it necessary to remove him from the charge of the Chittagong district. It will be impossible to maintain Municipal discipline, which has been so much weakened by these proceedings, without ordering a change in the administration of the district. Orders will accordingly issue immediately for the removal of Mr. Kirkwood from the office of Magistrate and Collector of Chittagong, and for his appointment to some other office in Bengal."

Thus, anything like real punishment was not visited on the culprit. Chittagong being a bad District, unhealthy and out of the way, transfer from there to any other is a relief. It is usually considered as good as a promotion. Nevertheless, the proud spirit chafed under the condemnation of its acts and the grave censure, howsoever tenderly administered. According to his wont, therefore, Mr. Kirkwood hurled a protest against the Government Resolution. •It was a voluminous letter, almost a pamphlet, and its impropriety was aggravated by its being sent direct to Government. But poor Mr. Lewis the Commissioner, whom he ought to have addressed, was himself a party to this breach of discipline. He had been persuaded to give Mr. Kirkwood a certificate for presentation to Government. In noticing the matter, the Bengal letter concludes—

"The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to be obliged to point out to you that your demi-official letter to Mr. Kirkwood was not called for, and is open to the objection of being calculated to weaken in Mr. Kirkwood's mind the moral force of the censure and sentence passed upon him by Government."

Such is the officer who, having failed as a magisterial and executive officer, got, under the beautiful system in vogue in our country, into the Judicial Service, and has now, as Judge of the Metropolitan

District of the Province of Behar, so disgraced himself on the bench. It will be seen that he has simply acted like himself. The responsibility of the outrage on poor Budhia, the little milk-girl, rests on the Government and system that allowed him, in the face of repeated misconduct, the opportunity to inflict on the girl a wrong without a remedy and scandalise the whole world.

We are glad that the Lieutenant-Governor promptly called for an explanation. Official fervour is apt to subside when Civilians are in danger. The news that Mr. Kirkwood is going on furlough is suspicious. Luckily, the Viceroy is not yet an Indian Civilian, and Lord Dufferin will doubtless keep his eye on the matter. Indeed, he may have to report to the India Office, as a question may any day be asked in Parliament. We only hope that the antecedents of the man will not be forgotten. It will be enough to call for the papers of 1876, including the representation of the British Indian Association.

INFRINGEMENT OF TRADE MARKS.

THERE are superstitions in every profession—law has its fictions, in name as in reality—what wonder if commerce should not be without them? The peculiar marks of merchants on their goods are by many regarded as the symbols of some irrational faith or old-world tradition. They are no doubt so represented in court by lawyers when paid for discrediting them. Certainly, the stress laid by merchants and manufacturers on the letter-press, or picture-writing, or absolute Hieroglyphics inscribed on their wares, might seem to outsiders a ludicrous exaggeration. But those who have given the matter serious thought or examine in the light of a wide experience, there is no invitation to ridicule—such men know what is what. They know that in the multitudinous competition of commerce—the effort of each article of the same kind to elbow its way to the front—these special characters and pictures of each house are so essential that they may well be revered as sacred symbols. They are a *sine qua non*. Commerce itself would languish without them. It is all very easy to cry, What matter marks if the things are the same? But where is the proof of identity in the absence of the external sign—the merchant's mark? The cheap philosophy of scepticism would not stand the crucible of the experience of the market. Talk of applying tests! There is simply no time for it. Life is short and commerce is long. There is neither leisure nor opportunity in the busy market-place for patient examination of every piece of every merchandise. Hence the need of marking goods in proof of their source of issue and guarantee of sameness of quality.

• Besides, who is to apply the tests? Few have the necessary confidence in their own powers. It is not every man who can measure and discern fineness. Nor does every purchaser buy for himself. As for the lawyers who may be found from time to time arguing that trade marks and merchandise marks are nothing, the conduct of their own clients contradict them. If marks are nothing, why do they take so much pains to copy those of others. If the regard paid to marks is a degrading fetishism, why do they so reverentially bow their neck to the golden calf?

In fact, it was the frequency of invasions of these special marks by unprincipled vendors, that robbing right and left—the established merchant of character and the unsuspecting purchaser—seriously hampered and threatened to ultimately injure trade, that led the honest part of the business world to combine

against a great and growing evil, and call for legislative interference for the protection of legitimate commerce. Accordingly, the English Merchandise Marks Act of 1887 was passed. The mercantile public have since been watching the operation of the measure.

A case was recently brought at Manchester in which a Mr. Brown, a cotton spinner and Mr. Misk, a shipper, were, under the Act, charged before the Magistrate with infringement of the trade mark of the well-known manufacturers Messrs. Robert M'Clure and Sons. The cloth of this firm is in high repute in Turkey and Egypt, notably among the Arabs, and a source of considerable profit to the manufacturers. It was in respect of this cloth that this contention arose. Messrs. Robert M'Clure & Sons complained that the accused had introduced to the market an inferior cloth resembling their own and marked with a mark little distinguishable from their own mark. If they were permitted to do so, they would, by imposing on the Arabs with a "Brown" cloth as if it were the "M'Clure" cloth or otherwise underselling Messrs. Robert M'Clure & Sons, ruin their trade. The defence showed that the representation of a mill on the "Brown" cloth was a correct copy of Mr. Brown's mill at Wigan. Mr. Schemeil, a Syrian merchant, was called, who swore that the difference between the two cloths was unmistakable and could not deceive even the Arabs, whom indeed he thought to be sharp enough. Great stress was laid on this witness as being a man not only acquainted with the Beyrout market and the cloths in question, but one who had recently come from the East. In passing judgment, the court discharged Mr. Brown as a sleeping millowner who had personally no knowledge of the matter, having left everything to Misk, who did not shirk his full responsibility. On the merits, Mr. Magistrate Headlam was clearly of opinion that "there had been an intention to imitate the 'M'Clure' cloth, and to pass off the goods of Mr. Brown as the goods of Messrs. M'Clure."

"There had been evidence called of a contradictory character, on the one side to say that it is calculated to deceive and on the other side to say that it was not. Looking at it himself he thought it was likely to deceive. They must not look at the merchant who bought the cloth in the first instance, for he did not think the merchant would be deceived by it. Neither did he think that an Englishman would be deceived by it. They had, however, to look at the ultimate purchasers, who bought these things in the bazaars, and see whether they would be deceived by the marks."

The defendants were very astute in their game, but the court unmasked them.

"The principal evidence against the defendants was the fact that they had continually been altering their marks. They had been gradually getting on. He thought the mark on the first piece was not so like that on the 'M'Clure' cloth as that on the second piece, but when they came to the third piece there certainly had been a great advance in the imitation of the 'M'Clure' cloth. The green marks were different, but the word '*malah*' was certainly much more prominent. These were the things, they were told, to which the people looked, and if the defendants had desired to keep their goods separate, and to have a different mark, why should they go so near and keep on making the resemblance to the 'M'Clure' cloth greater. On the whole, therefore, he had come to the conclusion that this was a case that came within the Act, and that it was an imitation calculated to deceive. He therefore would fine the defendant Misk, who appeared to be responsible, £20 and costs."

The prosecution now urged

"that the stamps used in marking the cloth should be forfeited, in accordance with the second sub-section of the second section of the Act, and Mr. Headlam acceded to the request."

The result must be esteemed satisfactory. The judgment was reported in the *Manchester Guardian* of the 12th May. Two days after, in the same journal, the following letter appeared on the subject of trade marks, which we think worth quoting in the benefit of the mercantile community in this country.

"SIR,—The report of Lord Herschell's Committee on this subject, issued a fortnight ago, was brought under the notice of the Chamber of Commerce at its quarterly meeting held on the 30th ult., since when it has no doubt been extensively read and appreciated, as it deserves

to be. It will well repay careful perusal. May I draw the attention of your readers to page 10 of the report? The Committee say:—

'We have had before us pieces of cloth, each of which bore different trade marks, tickets, words, figures and other marks, but on which those trade marks, tickets, &c., were so coloured and distributed as to convey the impression, in the absence of careful examination, that the goods bore the same marks. No one looking at those pieces of cloth could doubt that the resemblance was intentional, and was designed for the very purpose of deceiving. Although we arrived at the conclusion that it would not be possible to give to line headings the protection of registration, we felt that the fraudulent trading to which our attention had been called ought not to remain unchecked, and that something ought to be done to remedy a state of things so detrimental to sound and honest trading. We therefore procured the insertion in the Merchandise Marks Act of a clause having for its object to bring these frauds within the penalties of the law, and thus to check their practice.'

The clause in the Merchandise Marks Act referred to in this extract does not in the slightest degree lessen the value of any registered mark; but what it does is this, it gives protection to the prudent and honest user of woven headings, figures, words or marks, or arrangement or combination thereof without the expense and delay of registration. In all the trades affected by the clause in question it ensures to every man the peaceable enjoyment of his own property. The services of Lord Herschell and his learned colleague Lord Macnaghten in the Upper House in thus amending the bill have laid Lancashire under lasting obligations."

We may here mention that the subject is now engaging the attention of merchants in Australia. The London Chamber of Commerce has asked the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce to bring it before the local Parliament with a view to legislation on the lines of the English Act.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

XVIII.

AKBAR.

The next year the strong hill forts of Rintanbor and Calinjer were obtained possession of; and then Akbar proceeded to the reconquest of Guzerat, which was in a very troubled state at this time and afforded him every facility. There were several parties in the field in opposition to one another; one of which was headed by the turbulent Mirzas. Everything being prepared for the campaign, Akbar marched from Delhi at the head of his troops, and just before he reached Ahmedabad, he was met by the pageant king of Guzerat, who offered submission and tendered his crown. Some time, however, was spent in the siege of Surat, in efforts to reduce the refractory chiefs, and an endeavour to seize the Mirzas; in an affair with whom, Akbar nearly lost his life, or ran a risk of being captured. It happened in this wise. On one occasion, Akbar, at the head of a light detachment of about 150 men, attempted to cut them off from their main body, which he learnt they were about to join. He marched with such inconsiderate haste, and on such slight information about the strength of the enemy, that when he came up with them he found them to be 1,000 strong. Nevertheless, with his usual reckless courage, he advanced and charged the foe, but was hurled back, and compelled to seek a safe position, on the defensive, in some lanes formed by strong cactus hedges, and which, fortunately, were so narrow, that not more than three horsemen could ride abreast down them. In the *mille* Akbar became separated from his men and was nearly overpowered, when the Rajah of Jeypore happened to perceive his position, and came with his nephew to the rescue—it was owing to the heroic exertions of those two men, Rajah Bugwan Sing and Rajah Man Sing, that he owed his personal deliverance and the ultimate success of the day. The Mirzas, however, could not be prevented from effecting a junction with their troops; but were soon after dispersed. The whole of Guzerat was speedily subdued, and re-annexed to his dominions, and Akbar was free to return to Agra.

Akbar's attention was now drawn to Bengal as a rich and fertile province, and, having determined upon its annexation, he bent all his energies to its conquest, which was held possession of at the time by a weak and debauched Afghan prince, and who was besides engaged in civil war. Seizing such a favourable opportunity, Akbar left Agra, though the rainy season was far advanced, availing himself of the Jumna and the Ganges, for the transport of his stores, and a part of his army. Daud Khan, king of Bengal, retired before him into Orissa; and Akbar leaving his lieutenants to pursue the conquest, returned to Agra. Daud Khan subsequently twice met and routed the royal troops, but was at length defeated, he was still strong enough though,

to obtain, by treaty, Orissa for himself. Bengal, however, did not at once submit; the country was filled with Afghan chiefs, more than one of whom took the field against the Shah of Delhi, compelling him to employ his best troops and ablest generals.

Mirza Hakim, Akbar's brother, now again invaded the Punjab from Cabul, and laid siege to Lahore. Akbar proceeded in person to raise the siege and deliver the province; and forced Hakim to retire before him. Akbar crossed the Indus, with the determination of stopping for ever such invasions, and marched on Cabul, which he took possession of after a feeble resistance. He pardoned his brother, and, forgetful of the intention with which he had set out, generously restored him to his government.

We now come to a period, the circumstances of which led to the conquest of Cashmere. Mirza Hakim, Akbar's brother, died at Cabul, and his death occurred at an apparently critical moment in the fortunes of that Government, for it looked almost certain that Cabul would be invaded by the Uzbeg, Abdullah Khan, which chief had just obtained possession of Badakshan, by driving out its ruler. Akbar therefore thought it necessary to march in person, for the purpose of repelling any attack of Abdullah's; but Abdullah Khan remained content with his new conquest. The Shah of Delhi finding himself in the neighbourhood of the northern mountains, a great portion of which were already comprised in his dominions, naturally felt a desire to incorporate the rest. Cashmere first attracted his attention by its internal dissensions, which its Musulman ruler was not strong enough to subdue. Cashmere had long been ruled by a succession of Hindu princes, but had, about two hundred years before this period, fallen into the hands of a Mussulman adventurer, and had since been ruled by princes of the same faith. This celebrated kingdom is situated in the heart of the Himalaya mountains, at somewhat more than half their height, and is an extensive plain. Its climate is perhaps the most delicious in the world, being blessed with almost perpetual spring; as its elevation places it above the reach of the heat of the plains of Hindustan, while the surrounding mountains shelter it from the cold blast of the higher regions. Cashmere exhibits a scene of continual verdure in the midst of snowy summits. Trees of various climate are scattered over its surface, and fruits too of different kinds. The flowers of this region are innumerable in variety and beauty, and are poured forth with spontaneous profusion over its hills and plains. It has been appropriately named a terrestrial paradise. The approaches to Cashmere are, however, difficult and dangerous, but not more so than all mountain roads.

Akbar, availing himself of the opportunity which internal disturbances afforded, sent a force under the joint command of the Rajah of Jeypore and Shah Rokh Mirza, to seize the prize thus exposed to hazard. The chief difficulty this army had to contend against, was the inclemency of the weather, snow blocked all the passes and considerably retarded their progress. At length their supplies became exhausted, while they were still among these unproductive and inaccessible mountains. Under these circumstances, and bearing in mind the difficulties yet to be overcome, the two generals concluded that they would be doing very well, if they could get the ruling power in Cashmere to agree to a treaty, by which the sovereignty of Akbar would be acknowledged. Such a treaty was agreed to, but the Ruler of Cashmere inserted a clause, by which Akbar was forbidden all interference in the affairs of the country. Akbar disapproved of this treaty and would not confirm it, but the following year sent another army, whose efforts were completely successful. The king of Cashmere submitted, was enrolled among the nobles of Delhi, and was assigned a large jaghir in Behar. Akbar visited Cashmere to enjoy the pleasures of his new conquest. During the rest of his reign, he only repeated his visits twice. His successors, however, made Cashmere their favourite summer retreat, which up to the present time maintains the proud position of being the most delightful spot in Asia, or in the world; its lakes being its special features, with their flower-covered banks and floating gardens.

XIX.

Akbar's next operations were against the Afghans, who inhabited the hill countries around the plain of Peshawur. They resisted obstinately, and he met with questionable

success. The plain of Peshawur is of great extent and wonderfully fertile, combining the productive soil of India with many of the advantages of temperate regions; and it offered temptations and afforded facilities to these mountain men for predatory incursions. The chief commanders of the force sent against them, were Zein Khan and Rajah Bir Bal, who unfortunately were not on good terms, though probably this was unknown to the emperor—Akbar had assumed this title.—The open country was soon overrun and laid waste, and then Rajah Bir Bal attempted to advance up one of the valleys, but very soon found himself involved among defiles where there was no outlet, and thus was forced to give up the enterprise and return to the plains. The other commander, Zein Khan, manifested greater perseverance. He made his way, through many rugged and dangerous mountain passes, and even built a redoubt for the purpose of controlling the neighbourhood. But in the end he was compelled to retire and to form a junction with Bir Bal. They opportunely received reinforcements from Akbar, which enabled them to continue operations.

At a military council, Bir Bal advocated an attack on the Afghans, by the whole force. Zein Khan opposed this proposal in the strongest manner. But the former was determined to risk all in a desperate attack. The army advanced into the mountains. Bir Bal ascended a difficult pass with much labour and fatigue to his men, while Zein Khan remained inactive at the foot of the pass. Bir Bal's detachment was suddenly attacked by the Afghans, who seemed to spring up out of the rocks, and he was driven back in confusion to the plain. Meanwhile, a body of Afghans poured down on Zein Khan's troops, and scattered them over the plain. It was with the utmost difficulty that the two chiefs were able to come to a halt, and collect their dispersed forces. The Afghans afterwards prepared an ambuscade for Bir Bal and the troops under him. This leader lost his life, and his soldiers were completely routed. The Afghans immediately fell on Zein Khan, dispersed his men, killed many, and took more prisoners, while Zein Khan himself escaped on foot to Attock. Akbar was overwhelmed when he heard of this disaster, but soon recovered his usual tone of mind, and determined to adopt more vigorous measures against the Afghans. It, however, took more than a year, and necessitated the employment of the best troops and the most able of his lieutenants, before they were reduced to submission, and which subjection lasted only for a short time, for in the next reign they regained their turbulent independence.

Akbar now undertook the conquest of Sindh, and sent an army from Lahore for that purpose. These troops at first met with indifferent success, but eventually induced the chief to give up the province. He received very favourable treatment, and was appointed to a high rank among the nobles of the empire. The conquest of the Deccan was next the object of Akbar, and an army was sent thither, under the command of Prince Morad, supported by a contingent from Malwa, under Mirza Khan. The two generals effected a junction near Ahmednagar. It was at Ahmednagar that the famous Chand Bibi ruled as regent for her nephew. What a remarkable woman this Chand Bibi was! displaying tact, energy, and courage, of a high order. Her life reads much more like that of some famous knight in days of chivalry, than that of a woman. If she had not fallen while opposing the foes of her country and her king, it would have been a fitting close to such a life. How sad it makes one feel to know that this woman, who was one of the most distinguished of her sex, who ever appeared in India, should have perished ignobly, at the hands of a base and rabble soldiery, and in the sacred precincts of the female apartments, where she was foully murdered.

Chand Bibi no sooner saw the powerful foe she had to contend against, than she made the greatest efforts to reconcile the heads of the different opposed parties in her dominions, and applied herself to conciliate the Rajah of Bijapore. She was successful in reconciling all parties, and obtained the aid of Bijapore. Meanwhile, Prince Morad had besieged Ahmednagar, and now pressed the siege with vigour. The besiegers had run two mines under the works but these were discovered in time, by Chand Bibi, and rendered useless by countermines. This heroic woman personally superintended the workmen, and exposed herself to the same dangers as the soldiers. A third mine, however, was fired, before it could be rendered ineffectual by the

besieged, and a broad breach was made in the wall; while the counterminers were blown up. The defenders were stricken with terror, and began deserting their posts, leaving the road open to the advancing storming party. At this critical moment, Chand Bibi, equipped in full armour, flew to the breach. She had a veil over her face and a sword in her hand, with which she waved on her recoiling troops, and inspired them with her own exalted courage. Her soldiers rallied round her, and opposed the Moslems with such vigour and determination, that they hurled them back, only, however, to witness the stubborn courage of their foe, for the Mussulmans again swarmed up the breach. Chand Bibi displayed wonderful powers for a woman. She was indefatigable in her endeavours to repel the enemy. Now she was encouraging the defenders of the breach, again seeing to it that the whole resources of the fortress were brought to bear on the assailants; obtaining lock balls and arrows, which she literally caused to be poured on them in showers; guns were brought to bear on the breach; rockets, gunpowder, and other combustibles, were thrown among the crowd in the ditch; and throughout the day the garrison offered such stout resistance, that human courage, however obstinate, could bear no more, and the Mussulmans were forced to retire, after a most bloody contest. The next day the breach was found so effectually repaired that it would be impossible to mount it; new mines therefore would have to be laid or recourse had to a breaching battery. Prince Morad, of the two, had the superior force, but yet, he seemed unwilling to risk all on the chance of a battle, though he had little hopes now of carrying the place by assault. Both parties at last came to terms, by which Berar was surrendered to the emperor. It was not till after the death of Chand Bibi, that Akbar obtained possession of Ahmednagar. Contemporaneously with the Deccan, Candahar and Kandeish were annexed to the empire. The military operations in the latter country occupied Akbar for nearly a year, after which, he appointed Prince Danyal viceroy of Kandeish and Berar, and himself marched to Agra. Before his departure, he had received embassies and presents from the kings of Bijapore and Golconda, and had married his son Danyal, to the daughter of the Prince of Bijapore.

JAMES H. LINTON.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

At the time of Lord Ripon, Mr. Panioty, Assistant Private Secretary, induced Mr. Primrose, the Secretary, to grant Rs. 500 a month, as his house allowance on the plea that he would perform night duties, such as deciphering telegrams, &c. A house belonging to a private gentleman was taken up for the location of the Private Secretary's office and Mr. Panioty's private residence. Before the expiry of the lease Mr. Panioty removed the office to his own house which is much smaller than the one previously occupied, on a rental of Rs. 500 a month. The whole building is occupied by Mr. Panioty and his two sons, one of whom has lately married, with the exception of a flat on the first floor where the office is located, and a room in the ground floor for the Press. Mr. Primrose once came to the office and asked Mr. Panioty to take down the sign-boards of his two sons, on the ground that the house was not the private residence of Mr. Panioty and his family. The sign-boards were taken down but were again put up as soon as Mr. Primrose left India. They can be still seen.

Those who have been in the Private Secretary's office will be able to bear me out that the rent of the house can never exceed Rs. 350 a month. Then again if slight damages are caused to the house by the negligence of the clerks or servants, they are taken to task by Mr. Panioty; sometimes repairs are paid for from the Durbar fund. Mr. Panioty does not fulfil his part of the contract on the strength of which he has the privilege of occupying a free house at the expense of the taxpayers, viz., he does not work in the night. This part of the work is being performed by the clerks in rotation, who are made to sleep in a close dungeon-like godown in the ground floor. What makes the lot of these clerks harder is that they are not allowed to leave their office next day to take their meals. They satisfy the cravings of hunger from the neighbouring sweetmeat-sellers' shops. One clerk is to attend office every Sunday and Gazetted holidays.

Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace is kept in profound ignorance of what goes on in the office. Even at the time of Saraswate Poojah the clerks were made to attend office. Then again Mr. Panioty's sons occupy the entire house during the Viceroy's absence from Calcutta. May I also inquire why is not the 55 years' rule enforced against Mr. Panioty?

EMERALD THEATRE

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Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.

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That successful Pauranic Melo drama,

TULASI LILA.

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M. L. SUR, Asst. Manager.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to a decree and order of the Calcutta High Court Original Jurisdiction made in suit No. 261 of 1887 (wherein Rajah Doorga Churn Law is plaintiff and Bemola Churn Mozoomdar is defendant) and dated respectively 15th July 1887 and 28th January 1888 by the Registrar of the said Court in his sale room in the Court House on Saturday the 7th day of July next at the hour of 12 O'clock at noon the following property:

All that piece or parcel of land measuring 8 cottahs and 6 chittacks more or less situate at and being premises No. 110 Machooabazar Street in the Northern Division of the Town of Calcutta Holding No. 496 in Block No. 14 paying an annual rent of Re. 1-10-0 to the Collectorate of Calcutta and at present bounded on the North by the stable buildings of Rajah Doorga Churn Law on the East by a blind lane on the South by the dwelling house of Sittaram Ghose and on the West by the tenanted land of Rajah Rajendro Lala Mitter and others.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the office of the Registrar High Court Original Side and at the office of Messrs. Swinhoe and Chunder Attorneys for the plaintiff on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

R. BELCHAMBERS,
Registrar.

Swinhoe and Chunder,
Plaintiff's Attorneys, Calcutta,
High Court Original Side.
The 29th June 1888.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction on the 14th of July next at the hour of 12 O'clock at noon pursuant to a decree dated 24th April 1884 and an order of the said Court dated 25th May 1886 respectively made in suit No. 108 of 1884 (wherein Doorga-prosunno Ghose was plaintiff and Shurruth Coomar Dutt was defendant) the following properties belonging to the estate of Shurruth Coomar Dutt deceased the husband of the said defendant Sreemutty Kheerode Coomary Dassee.

1st.—All that undivided one-fourth part or share of and in the land and premises No. 31 Lower Chitpore Road Fouzdaree Ballakhana in the town of Calcutta containing by estimation one bigah and nineteen cottahs and bounded on the West by Chitpore Road on the North by Collootollah Street on the East partly by Hurrinbarree Lane and partly by Hackney Carriage Stand and on the South partly by a Municipal Bathing Platform and Municipal Latrines partly by the property of Harranund Shaw and partly by the property of Hajee Baba Catharine.

2nd.—All that undivided 12/2160 Two thousand one hundred and sixtieth parts or shares of Shurruth Coomar Dutt of and in the dwelling house with the land appertaining thereto containing by estimation four bigas four cottahs and five chittacks more or less situate at and being numbered 78 Nimtollah Ghaut Street in the town of Calcutta and butted and bounded on the North partly by Romjaun Ostagar's Lane and partly by land with garden No. 3 Romjaun Ostagar's Lane on the South partly by Nimtollah Ghaut Street and partly by Issur Chunder Sircar's dwelling house on the East partly by the tenanted land No. 77 Nimtolla Ghaut Street partly by a Government drain and partly by the dwelling house of Nundo Lal Soor Gobin Chunder Gooyee Kassinauth Bysack Nittanund Dey Bolly Chund Bysack Nobin Chunder Ghose and Dwarkanauth Dey and on the West partly by the dwelling house of the late Issur Chunder Sircar and partly by the tenanted land of Shaik Fyza Ally and Shaik Mahomed Ally.

3rd.—All that undivided 12/2160 Two thousand one hundred and sixtieth parts or shares of and in all that piece or parcel of land or ground containing by estimation two bigas two cottahs and two chittacks more or less situate at and being numbered 3 formerly numbered 2 Romjan Ostagar's Lane in Calcutta and butted and bounded on the North partly by the house of Manick Bose partly by the lands of Shib Chunder Bose Bissonauth Dutt and Kassinauth Dutt on the East partly by the house of Gobind Chund Dutt partly by the house of Gocoolmoney Dabee and partly by the house No. 78 Nimtollah Ghaut Street on the South by the land house and premises No. 78 Nimtollah Ghaut Street and on the West partly by the house of Romjaun Ostagar and partly by Romjaun Ostagar's Lane.

4th.—All that undivided moiety or half part or share of and in the upper-roomed house together with the piece or parcel of land or ground on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation about ten cottahs more or less situate at and being No. 11 Nimtollah Ghaut Street in Calcutta (subject to the right and interest of Sreemutty Kristo Bhabiney Dassee the mother of the said Shurruth Chunder Dutt on partition) and bounded on the North partly by the house of Greesh Chunder Bose and partly by the rayyety land of Chunder Mookerjee on the East partly by the land of Gopaul Chunder Sircar and partly by the house of Kally Kristo Dutt on the West by the land of the plaintiff and on the South partly by the land of the plaintiff partly by Auckrabaree and partly by the land of Ramnidhi Mookerjee.

All that undivided one sixtieth part or share of and in the following Zamindaries and land:

5th.—Pergunnah Sultanpore Khorooriah in the Districts of Khoolna Backergunge and Fureedpore being No. 171 in the Toujie of the Collector of Khoolna containing 48 Mouzahs with Jalkar Bonkur Falkur and other rights the Government revenue of the said Toujie

No. 171 is Rupees 3683-8-0 a year besides cesses.

6th.—All that Zemindary Belpoolia and Khorooriah in Zillah Khoolna being No. 172 in the Toujie of the Collector of Khoolna containing 38 mouzahs with Jalkar Bonkur Falkur and other rights the Government revenue of the said Toujie No. 172 is Rupees 801-0-6 a year besides cesses.

7th.—Kismut Talook Modhoodoya in the Zillah of Khoolna being No. 576 in the Toujie of the Collector of Khoolna the Government revenue of which is Rupees 16-7 as. besides cesses.

8th.—Chittra Nuddee Chur or Madhub Ghose Gatty Chur in Zillah Khoolna being No. 382 of the Toujie of the Collector of Khoolna the Government revenue of which is Rupees 62-12-0 a year besides cesses.

9th.—Sowldaha Bundobusta Chur in Zillah Backergunge being No. 6314 in the Toujie of the Collector of Backergunge the Government revenue of which is Rupees 459 a year besides cesses.

10th.—Talook Kismut Sunasoor in Zillah Furreedpore being No. 2773 in the Toujie of the Collector of Furreedpore standing in the names of Ram Nursingho Ghose and others the revenue of which is Rupee 1-12-6 a year besides cesses.

11th.—Kismut Mahrutha Talok being No. 2770 in the Toujie of the Collector of Furreedpore standing in the names of Kally Sunker Roy and others in Zillah Furreedpore the Government revenue of which is Rupee 1-8-0 a year besides cesses.

12th.—Kismut Gopeenauthpore Talook Nundorampore in Zillah Furreedpore being No. 2767 in the Toujie of the Collector of Furreedpore the Government revenue of which is Rupee 1-11-9 a year besides cesses.

13th.—All that purchased Mourasee land and Bausabatty in Mokam Kusba in Zillah Jessore Sub-Registration District Bagarhat and Thanah Bagarhat the rent payable in respect of which is Rupees a year.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the Office of the Registrar High Court Original Jurisdiction and at the Office of Messrs. Swinhoe and Chunder attorneys for the plaintiff on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

R. BELCHAMBERS,
Registrar.

Swinhoe and Chunder,
Plaintiff's Attorneys,
Calcutta High Court,
Original Jurisdiction.

The 22nd March 1888.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	Rs.
Amount already advertised...	59,802
Nawab Syud Zainool Abideen, Khan Bahadoor	75
Prince Mahomed Raheemooddeen	25
Prince Mirza Mahomed Jah Ali Bahadoor	25
Hajee Umdoo Khan, of Dinapore	10
Baboo Benod Behary Mullick	10
Total	59,947

Further subscriptions are invited, and will be duly acknowledged in the papers.

PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE,

AMIR ALI,

S. E. J. CLARKE,

Honorary Secretaries.

Calcutta, 18th June, 1888.

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 concomitant intense menstrual pains, and all
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 dental to menstrual difficulties and green sick-
 ness, and prepares the system for conception.
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 piles, all the 20 kinds of flux—such as sper-
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 the most obstinate cases of uterine Leucorr-
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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
 BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

• NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
 (the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
 Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some
 years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder
 Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*
 (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high
 repute among the kindly, as well as acute and
 intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real
 misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord
 Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The
 picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and
 many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as
 an Englishman may find them if he looks
 fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad
 story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder;
 and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen
 could give individual instances of Bengalee
 faithfulness almost unique in history, taking
 all the circumstances of our relation to India
 into account. The Bengalee is generally eager
 for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both
 courageous in the expression of his opinions,
 and gifted to a remarkable degree with the
 power to express those opinions with force and
 precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an
 unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during
 an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in
 force as well as eloquence, any unprepared
 speech he ever had heard made by any mem-
 ber of the House of Commons, if four or five
 members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body
 of men—small for that large province—who
 are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young
 Bengal." Some of them are no longer young,
 but grave and aged; some have, in the course
 of years, been highly distinguished for their
 public services and their scientific and other
 attainments. Some have at times been mis-
 represented, and their language misinterpreted,
 so that on its return to them it has amazed
 none more than themselves. Nothing of this
 has been done by the really great adminis-
 trators of India. That it has been done, however,
 cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the
 author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu
 Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute,
 as I have said, also an administrator, as the
 reader will see from the title-page to this book.
 A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might
 seek for and not find. His use of the English
 language has astonished many an educated
 Englishman; and the quality of his reading is
 shown by his marvellous power of quotation;
 not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and
 Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in
 science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads,
 and little-known old pamphlets, in the applica-
 tion of which he leaves one wondering—first,
 how he obtained the productions at all, and
 secondly, how, having obtained them, he
 learned to apply them so appositely to the
 subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we
 shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the
 work of the administrator. He comes upon a
 milkman's village, on which he finds fastened
 the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens
 the grip, and re-settles the village, in the
 double interest of Prince and Peasant. And
 all the time he sees everything. The poor
 people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his
 genial and kindly, if also at times, what a
 Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice.
 A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his at-
 tention by the gracefulness with which she
 carries a vessel of water from the river; and,
 though the fair maid and he are divided by
 race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his
 full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admit-
 ted—and he will not be offended with me for
 saying so—that he never meets with a fair face,
 without at least giving evidence of the fact
 that he has eyes to see and a heart to com-
 prehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much
 might be said, and still leave much more to
 say. He meets a missionary on the river, and
 evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to
 pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, how-
 ever, in the bud, and contents himself with
 saying, "So new is preaching here, that the
 simple people said the padre had been singing
 in the street." He meets Catholic and Pro-
 testant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles
 over their disputes while he astonishes them
 by his command of the English language, and
 even by his knowledge of the Bible—a know-
 ledge, I may add, which is evident in many of
 his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in
 its cage, to his great distress, which is not
 however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but
 of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose
 name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to
 bark, with a noble independence, at some very
 dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell:
 [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one
 that will draw the author very close to the
 great heart of humanity, wherever the words
 are read. Could anything be finer than the
 testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen,"
 ending with the "Bengalee *parih*, my poor
 Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah
 dog. The passage is worthy of the author,
 and of the great mercifulness of the land that
 bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared
 further to find bold and manly language. The
 author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he
 gives John his due, and admits that India owes
 him a great debt. Here is one passage relating
 to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pic-
 tures—the reader will find some exceedingly
 pretty, and all the more valuable in that they
 are taken from a standground purely Indian;
 not English. Where an English artist's mind
 would be filled with European ideas, the mind
 of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class
 of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive
 and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our
 author was placed in a dilemma of a kind
 not unknown to travellers in India, but not on
 that account the less stupid. He wished to
 go by a particular boat, and took time by the
 forelock for that purpose. The fare was at
 first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he
 offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note
 for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from
 the Currency Office, and had been received
 only the day before from another Government
 department." The rest of the story is
 thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth
 something. I can fancy the author laughing
 even in his disney; for he can laugh well at
 others, and equally well at himself. I shall
 only venture on one more passage; and I give
 it as showing the spirit of the man who dares
 to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*.
 He desired to return to his home in Bengal,
 and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Indepen-
 dent Tipperah, where he had been located
 "some two years." He received the Maha-
 rajah's permission to return home; but still he
 could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this pas-
 sage; the lesson of the immense value of
 courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers
 and ruled. There is a great deal in that sen-
 tence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best
 administrator in India is not always the ablest,
 the man whose plans are the wisest as plans;
 but the man who, with plans or without them,
 gives confidence to the people, and confidence
 not merely in his justice, but also in his con-
 siderateness and forbearance. A clever man
 once said that the art of success in India is the
 art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but
 the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in
 any case the art has its limits, and its natural
 collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall
 in the end. But there is one art that never
 fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy
 which, being natural, is not affected by any
 whim or caprice, either of the person who
 possesses it, or of any one with whom he has
 relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once
 more recall, as I easily and very vividly can,
 the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as
 known to me many years ago. I see him, as
 I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra
 Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-
 abused editor of the *Anrita Bazar Patrika*;
 and I feel and say, with all earnestness and
 sincerity, that among these are men whom
 the Government of India would be wise in
 recognising and winning entirely to its side.
 They are men on whom no really generous
 word—true as well as generous—ever is
 thrown away. I have compared them at times
 with men of kindred occupations at home,
 and I think that they are as a rule by far
 the truer gentlemen in good manners, and
 often in very much more than mere manners.
 May the great God, whose sacred Name they
 use as that of the Father of all, guide them to
 a nobler destiny than any they yet have
 known, and with them, and by them, bless
 their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1888.

No. 331

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

A PSALM OF LIFE.

Through the wild Babel of our fever'd time
The song of Homer cometh, grave and stern,
With tidings from the world's fresh, healthy prime,—
Tidings which our worn, wearied age concern.

Unchang'd, through all the long unnumber'd years,
The voice of Homer sings the song divine,
Which tells of godlike toils, of heroes' tears,
And of the punishment of Priam's line.

The battle in the plain is raging yet :
The watchfires blaze, the beak'd-ships line the shore :
For us the foe in grim array is set :—

Ah ! but do we fight as they fought of yore ?

For we, too, like the heroes long ago,
Must wage slow wars and sail the bitter sea :
Fierce is the conflict, loud the tempests blow,
And the waves roar and rage unceasingly.

Still must we wander o'er the stormy main :
'Twixt rocks and whirlpools a dread passage make :
Still must the Sirens sing to us in vain :
Still from the toils of Circe must we break.

Turn, then, to Homer's Psalm of Life, and see
How they endured, whose pilgrimage is done ;
And hear the message they have left for thee :—
Only by Patience is the victory won.

YE MINISTERS OF ENGLAND!

Ye Ministers of England
Who pare the native cheese,
Who care more for the Caucas than
Our safety on the seas ;
Your old excuses launch again
Ye forged long, long ago,
As ye prate through debate
Of the things we must not know—
Of the questions about ships and forts
We must not "want to know."

Britannia does need bulwarks
And towers along the steep ;
She's scant of powder, ships, and men :
Her rulers are asleep.
The thunder from her phantom fleet
The French can overcrow
With thy might, Melinite,
While the stormy tempests blow,
While the battle rages, short and sharp,
And the stormy tempests blow.

The meteor flag of England
May yet terrific burn
Above the ruin of her trade
The ashes of her urn.
Then, then, ye bold officials,
Perchance you'll come to know
The hate of the State
In an hour of overthrow,
When a ruined people turns in wrath
On you that wrought their woe.

—*St. James's Gazette.*

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Age of Chivalry may be past, but that of Loyalty clearly is not gone. A deaf and dumb painter, by name Kinder, of Bykovine, Silesia, offered his healthy larynx for the late Emperor Frederick. Sir Morell Mackenzie, in reply, wrote :—

"Your devotion is deserving of all honour ; but I cannot accept the great sacrifice which you offer, for it would unhappily neither help His Majesty the Emperor nor serve the cause of science."

What wonder, after that, at the Indian Suttee, or to suppose that she was invariably goaded to self immolation by fiendship Brahmins? Kinder is kinder to his sovereign than the Indian widow to her dead lord.

By refined chemical tests, Professor Muntz, of the National Agronomic Institute of Paris, has discovered alcohol in cultivated soils, in rain water, in sea and river water, and in the atmosphere. He is further of opinion that vegetable moulds may contain considerable quantities. What a revelation ! Everything and everybody—including Sir Wilfrid Lawson and the Teetotallers—are, *ex necessitate*, "half seas over." It is a drunk world, my masters !

A SUICIDE of an old miser, who preferred to dwell in one of the dingiest "slums" of Paris, and was suffering from an incurable malady in the eyes, leaves a fortune of 300,000 fr. or £12,000 sterling, in securities and railway and mining shares, as well as a considerable sum of English money in gold and bank notes.

We have just had among us the death of a young miser, who committed a slow suicide through a long course of illness without proper treatment or taking change, though rolling in wealth which he has not even willed away properly.

PRIVATE Brinn of the Leicestershire Regiment has been sentenced by the Allahabad High Court to twelve months' rigorous imprisonment for criminal assault with intent to outrage the modesty of a native woman Soobia. In passing sentence, Mr. Justice Straight remarked that

"it grieved him to pass such a severe sentence, but that it was intolerable that men belonging to a regiment, or any man, should lay violent hands on unfortunate women in this way. It was necessary to inflict a severe punishment as an example to others, for it was the duty of the Court to protect all Her Majesty's subjects with the strong arm of the law."

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

WE reproduce the following deeply interesting account from the *Army and Navy Gazette* :—

"M. Napoleon Ney has just telegraphed to the *Figaro* from Samarkand that the Transcaspian Railway was inaugurated on the anniversary of the coronation of the Czar in presence of 100,000 Asiatics, who were very much impressed by this imposing spectacle. M. Napoleon Ney was one of a party of Frenchmen invited to witness this solemnity, and M. de Lesseps would have gone but for the Panama Canal business requiring his presence in Paris. Among the native princes invited were those of Khiva, Bokara, Khokand, and Khasgar. Writing from a place called Ozoum-Ada, M. Napoleon Ney, in a letter dated May 19, gave a brief sketch of General Annenhoff, of the Russian Staff, who was charged with the direction of the works of the railroad in question. He says that his promotion has been rapid, that he is hardly 50 years of age, that he was highly appreciated by General Chanzy, who was for a time French Ambassador at St. Petersburg, that he formerly had charge of the mobilisation service, and that before filling his present post he constructed several strategic lines in Lithuania. We are also assured that the General is a true friend of France, well versed in French literature, and, crowning complement of all for a Muscovite soldier, a refined Parisian. The General, it seems, paid a flying visit to Paris 18 months ago. He arrived from Turkestan one morning to see his sister, who was lying ill in the French capital; he dined out in the evening and was on his road back to Central Asia 12 hours afterwards. At the dinner-party we are told that the General astonished the guests with the 'fabulous history' of the railway upon which he was engaged—a line some 2,000 miles in length, running through arid deserts where one may travel for weeks at a time without coming across a drop of water. It was after two reverses experienced by the Russian Army in the Akkal oasis, 200 miles from the Caspian, owing to want of transport, that General Skobelev, sent to revenge the insult, conceived the idea of employing a railway. He made use of a portable Decauville line which rendered great services. In January, 1881, Géok-Tépé fell, the whole oasis of Akkal surrendered at discretion, and General Skobelev inaugurated Russian domination by terrible reprisals. In 1884 the Turcoman oasis of Merv, accounted to be inaccessible, made its submission, thanks to Colonel Alikhanoff's diplomacy and the definitive establishment of the railway to Géok-Tépé. In 1885 an Imperial ukase charged General Annenkoff with the direction of the line now opened to Samarkand. He formed a railway battalion 1,000 strong at Moscow, and reached the scene of action on July 3. Great difficulties were encountered; at times the oases were separated by 100 miles of desert, in which neither wood nor water could be found. The General conceived the happy idea of a rolling camp,—a train of special carriages in which the workmen lived and which moved along as the line advanced. These carriages, two stories high, were regular houses, and the one in front was plated and armed. We are told that the last portion of the line was made at the rate of about six miles a day, and that the Tekkès were persuaded to work at a railway which deprives them for ever of their independence. As many as 22,000 Tekkès were employed at the rate of 18 roubles a month. M. Napoleon Ney remarks that when the news of the inauguration of a station at Merv reached Europe it was as if a thunder-bolt had fallen. 'To-day, however, the line to Samarkand, running northward, has somewhat reassured the English, who thought that the house was on fire. If this rapidity of execution astonishes Europeans, one may easily understand that it has absolutely stupefied the Turcomans. 'Of what use,' they say, 'to struggle against the Russians, who have just laid down, at a gallop, two hands of iron between our country and the sea? Who can resist such men? God willed it. The white Czar is our Sultan.' To-day the line reaches provisionally to Samarkand the noble, from whence, the Mongolian invasions used to start. The scream of Russian locomotives is about to trouble the sleep of Tamerlane. To conclude this colossal enterprise, conducted without noise, is an event of the greatest importance. By the boldness of its conception, the rapidity with which the work has been accomplished, and its political and commercial results, the extent of which it is impossible to foresee, the work of General Annenkoff will rank in the history of our age with the piercing of the Suez and the Panama Canals and the American railroad from the Atlantic to the Pacific."

We feel proud of Ali Khan Saheb as an Asiatic. But it is the "barbarous Russ" that has given him the opportunity for greatness. Which of us Indians has had anything like the same chance of distinction at the hands of the liberal and enlightened British?

EX-PLEADER J. C. Purcell is in trouble again. He has been sentenced by the Joint-Magistrate of Mussoorie, to Rs. 200 fine, in default one month's hard labor, for libelling Mr. T. Fitch in the *Indian Mail*. The particulars are thus given in a Mussoorie correspondence of the *Morning Post* :—

"We have here a very scurrilous paper, called the *Indian Mail*, managed (and to all appearances owned and edited) by a disbarred pleader, named J. C. Purcell. This paper attacked Mr. T. Fitch whilst it was published in Saharunpur, and Mr. Fitch summoned Purcell for defamation. It appears from the evidence given in the case yesterday (Jun. 25) that Mr. Fitch was induced to accept an apology on Purcell's promising to give up the real author of the defamatory attack: this he did by telling Mr. Fitch that Mr. F. Beaty, of Lahore, was the author, and showing him certain proofs, promising him more by post: these he never sent, and Mr. Fitch found himself in the unpleasant position of having taxed Beaty with the libel and having no proofs. Purcell wrote to him that he quite admitted that he ought to be set right as regards Beaty, and that he alone could do it and he was a poor man, &c., &c., (this letter was filed in Court), and the end was that Mr. Fitch had to enter into negotiation to buy the information; this he did, and Purcell

gave up Beaty's questions and telegrams and made an affidavit before the Magistrate of Saharunpur as to Beaty's complicity in the libel. Purcell then brought his paper up here, and was not unnaturally pursued by some of his creditors, who had found out his whereabouts from the reports of the case. He then wrote to Mr. Fitch, threatening him that the first suit that was filed against him he should proceed to expose him in his paper, to publish all his letters and telegrams regarding the purchase of Beaty's letters, and generally make his life a misery. It is to be presumed he did this as he knew Mr. Fitch had to file a case against him for the price of a press bought from the East Lancashire Regiment. Mr. Fitch did not reply, and the consequence was that the next issue of the paper teemed with the name of Fitch and was most insulting all through. Mr. Fitch thereupon filed a complaint for criminal intimidation and insult under sections 503, 504 and 506, Indian Penal Code, and the case was heard yesterday. Mr. J. E. Howard, of your city, appeared for the complainant, Mr. Fitch, and Purcell conducted his own case. The facts of the defamation case were brought out in Mr. Fitch's examination, and Purcell's cross-examination failed to help his case in any way: he of course endeavoured to bring in extraneous matter, but Mr. Howard's watchfulness and the Court's sagacity were too many for him. He called one witness, who failed. Mr. Purcell then endeavoured to make out that there was no intimidation. Mr. Howard made a most able address, laying every portion of the law relating to intimidation clearly before the Court, and proving incontrovertibly that the letter itself constituted the offence without the articles in the paper immediately following. The Court, in a long and careful judgment, accepted the view of the prosecution."

That Purcell is a pest.

A YOUNG Assistant Commissioner in the Ava District, Burma, has been suspended for six months—from rank, pay and allowances.

RAO BAHADUR PARUMUL KHUBCHAND, Deputy Collector of Jacobabad, is being tried on charges of bribery and corruption. The trial commenced on the 30th ult. at Larkana, before the Sub-divisional Magistrate Mr. Mules. The Deputy Commissioner Mr. Giles has been told off by the Bombay Government to prosecute and Mr. Monmohun Ghose has been taken up to defend him.

Rao Bahadur is accused of receiving Rs. 200 from one Ali Murad as an illegal consideration for some Government land. The defence admits receipt of the money but as repayment of a loan advanced. Mr. Constable, Public Prosecutor for Sind, had been originally engaged for the defence, but, it is said, being dissatisfied with the un-English conduct of the local authorities, he has retired from the contest, making room for Mr. Ghose.

THE senior Rani of the late Raja of Pudukota is dead.

THE Maharaja of Cochin is dead. The Elaya Raja Veeracerala Varma succeeds.

AT Hamilton's sale, the jewellery of the late ex-King of Oudh fetched only a lac of Rupees.

SIR ASMAN JAH has been confirmed in his post, by the conferment of the Dewani khilat.

SIR SALAR JUNG II. has been permitted to return to Hyderabad.

FOR his Artillery position finder, Major Watkin is to receive £35,000, namely, £25,000 immediately and £10,000 annually for ten years.

THE Directors have sanctioned a retiring bonus of Rs. 25,000 to Mr. F. Church, the late Chief Auditor of the Madras Railway.

THEY are agitating for a College at Meerut. There was a public meeting at which the Collector presided, and the subscription announced was Rs. 25,000.

THE English Volapukists have started a little monthly of their own—*The Volapuk Journal*.

IN Euatis, Florida, a person is reported to have successfully grown a compound tree of lemon, peach, pear, grape, persimmon, orange, and guava.

THE canal across the isthmus of Perekop has been commenced at both ends—Perekop and Guenitschesk—simultaneously. It will be 75 miles long and completed in 4½ years.

LORD WOLSELEY'S tenure of office expires on the 28th. But he has been granted an extension of the Adjutant-Generalship of the Forces for two years more. With two years more in prospect, doubtless, if required, thanks to the relaxation of the genius of Red Tape! What a mockery these official mummeries in the case of "Our only General!"

A WAR steamer—*Medea*—has just been launched at Chatham. She is 265ft. long over all, 41ft. broad of beam, of 2,800 tons displacement and 9,000 horse power, with a speed of 20 knots an hour. She may carry six 6in breech-loading 100 pounders, ten quick-firing guns, and torpedoes. We hope she will not prove too unwieldy lumber for management in actual warfare, nor go down to the bottom of the water in the first decent gale.

THE express railway speed in America averages from 35 to 40 miles an hour; in England from London to Manchester the journey is at the rate of 48 miles, and between London and Grantham close upon 54 miles. In Italy, it averages only 29½ miles; in France and Germany, 33; in Spain, 22; in Portugal, 18½; Switzerland 22; Holland 33½; Belgium 33; Scandinavia 21; India 33; and Russia 34. Portuguese lines seem conscious of the limitation of their territory. Switzerland is smart for her rocky ups and downs, her undulations and sinuosities. Scandinavia too has her peculiar physical difficulties. Spain is shamefully slow for all her ample room and verge enough.

HERE, from an English monthly, is an interesting episode of the History of the Press, and an instructive glimpse of how they order matters in the enterprising West:—

"There recently died in Vienna a most remarkable man, says a correspondent of *Galvani*. This was Herr Zang, who introduced into France the Viennese bread, and made a fortune by it. While busily engaged in establishing his bakery in the Rue Richelieu, he was struck with the new departure in journalism due to the genius of M. Emile de Girardin, and determined to do for Vienna what Girardin had done for Paris—namely, to give the public a good political newspaper at a low price. So he sold out his bakery to one of his French rivals, and with this money in his pocket started off on an entirely new line. The baker now turned journalist, as easily as the army officer had become baker. As soon as the revolutionary storm of 1848 had blown over, Zang founded his *Presse*, preserving the name of Girardin's famous journal. At that epoch Vienna was governed by a military officer, who was very gruff and stiff, but who, like all human beings, had a weak side. He believed he was a grand orator and a brilliant writer. Shrewd Herr Zang never missed an occasion to insert at length in the columns of the *Presse* the speeches of the dreaded General Welden, and to praise the literary merit of his proclamations, which so tickled the old soldier that, notwithstanding the state of siege which then oppressed Vienna, the *Presse* was given the greatest latitude. Editor Zang made the most of this advantage, and the result was that the paper grew in importance and wealth the list of subscribers and advertisers increasing rapidly from year to year. It was a rule with him that all public men, ministers, ambitious millionaires, and financial concerns, especially the last named, must pay if they wished a good word from his widely-read newspaper. He drew up a regular tariff, where the prices were arranged according to the importance of the man, his wealth, or the services that the paper could render him either by praising him or by simply not attacking him. The driving, avaricious ex-baker was not in the least ashamed of this business. He used even to boast of it. On one occasion I heard him say, 'Why, I should make the Queen of England pay me if I printed her Speech from the Throne.' But he was destined to receive a hard blow himself, and in the tenderest spot—his purse. Not a trained writer himself, but an excellent business man, Zang had drawn about him a corps of able editors and contributors, who often complained that they were underpaid and even badly treated, for the proprietor and chief editor of the *Presse* had become a veritable autocrat, and, like the founder of the *New York Tribune*, did not mince matters when vexed at any of its subordinates. One fine morning the potentate of the *Presse* nearly had an apoplectic fit when two of his principal editors informed him that they had had enough of it, and meant to establish a rival, backed by the money of several bankers, who were also anxious to throw off the yoke of the *Presse*. This was the origin, in 1864, of the Vienna *Neue Freie Presse*, now known throughout the world. Its rebellious founders were Etienne and Friedlander, both of whom died prematurely, but not until they had had the satisfaction of knowing that the *Neue Freie Presse* was a formidable rival of Zang and his journal. Poor Herr Zang was terribly affected by this 'desertion' of his 'pupils,' as he called Etienne and Friedlander. His despair was even amusing. He filled all Vienna with his lamentations. Zang kept up the fight for three years, when, weary of the struggle, he sold out his journal for about \$400,000."

Not a bad sum to retire upon from the incessant struggle of such an investment, many proprietors would think!

ENGLAND having, for the moment, washed her hands of the Tunnel Scheme, France comes forward with her alternative programme of bridging the sea:—

"A scheme for building a bridge over the Straits of Dover has been brought out in France by the Creusot Company and M. Hersent, the

well-known contractor. The bridge is to be about twenty miles long, the superstructure to rest 160 feet above the sea level, and the span between the piers to be 1,600 feet. It is to bear four lines of rails, and each of the piers will contain a place of refuge and be surmounted with a powerful light. The estimated cost of the work is £32,000,000. The metallic framework will weigh two millions of tons, and the construction will take about six years."

Who shall, after that, talk of the Colossus of Rhodes? But how many people, we wonder, will have the nerve for the horrors of that "middle passage?" Besides, who will risk their capital on such an undertaking? Till war and vandalism can be more effectually checked, it seems premature to embark on such costly enterprises.

BABOO Obhoy Chundra Dass, the wellknown retired Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate, has been permitted to retain the title of Rai Bahadur of his office for life. Considering the great influence he exercised in the East country, for a long series of years, through the Commissioner's office, it is a considerate concession.

NOTWITHSTANDING the severity of the weather, there were, in the 21 days that the Indian Museum was open to the general public, as many as 35,590 visitors, giving a daily average of 1,694. The bulk were more than ever natives, 26,016 males + 9,171 females = 35,187. Only 403 Europeans visited, 340 males and 63 females.

THE meeting of the Syndicate for the appointment of Examiners for the next year, was a rather lively scene. A lucky University official seemed to be on his trial. A good deal of thorough honest work was done. The List in the last few years had grown to a serious scandal and a blow on the education of the rising generation. Between the weeding of personal favourites and the infusion of fresh blood, the cast is a decided improvement. The Examiners of the Calcutta University for the year 1889, are—

M. A. EXAMINATION.

English.—Mr. F. J. Rowe, M. A., and S. C. Hill, B. A., B. Sc.
Sanskrit.—Pundit Maheschandra Nyaratna, and Baboo Krishna Kamal Bhattacharjya.
History.—Mr. W. T. Webb, M. A., and Dr. A. F. Hærnle.
Philosophy.—Baboo P. K. Roy, and Mr. H. Stephen, M. A.
Mathematics.—Mr. W. Booth, M. A., and Baboo Asutosh Mookerjee, M. A.
Physical Science.—Mr. J. Eliot, M. A., Mr. W. Booth, M. A., and Mr. A. Pedler, F. C. S.

B. A. EXAMINATION.

English.—Mr. A. C. Edwards, M. A., and Mr. J. Mann, M. A.
Mathematics.—Baboo Asutosh Mookerjee (Jur), M. A., F. R. A. S., F. R. S. E., and Mr. C. Little, M. A.
Sanskrit.—Pandit Mahesh Chunder Nyayrutna, and Baboo Krishna-kamal Bhattacharjya.
History.—Mr. W. T. Webb, M. A., and Rev. A. W. Atkinson, M. A.
Philosophy.—Dr. A. F. Hærnle, Baboo P. K. Roy, D. Sc., and Baboo Kali Charan Banerjee, M. A.
Physics.—Mr. J. Elliot, M. A.
Chemistry.—Mr. A. Pedler, F. C. S.
Botany.—Dr. D. Prain, M. A.
Geology.—Dr. W. King.
Zoology.—Mr. J. Wood-Mason.

F. A. EXAMINATION.

English.—Rev. Dr. K. S. Macdonald, M. A., Mr. S. C. Hill, B. A., Rev. W. Johnson, B. A., and Baboo N. N. Ghose.
Mathematics.—Mr. G. W. Kuchler, M. A., Baboo Gowry Sunker De, M. A., Baboo Bepin Behary Gupta, M. A., and Baboo Mohendra Nath Roy, M. A.
Sanskrit.—Baboo Rajendra Chandra Sastri, M. A., Baboo Haraprasad Sastri, M. A., Baboo Kailas Chunder Dutta, M. A., and Baboo Rajkumar Sarbadhikari, B. A.
History.—Baboo Asutosh Mookerjee (Ser), M. A., and Baboo Krishna Behari Sen, M. A.
Logic.—Rev. W. Smith, M. A., and Baboo P. Mookerjee, B. Sc.
Physics.—Rev. Father E. Lafont, Mr. S. A. Hill, B. Sc., Mr. W. H. Wood, B. A., and Baboo J. C. Bose, B. A., B. Sc.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

English.—Mr. F. J. Rowe, M. A., Head Examiner; Mr. M. Prothero, B. A., Rev. A. P. Begg, M. A., Rev. A. Tamoy, M. A., Mr. C. R. Wilson, M. A., Mr. A. H. Pirie, Rev. J. Edwards, M. A., Rev. J. M. Hamilton, M. A., Mr. C. A. Andrews, M. A., Baboo Nilkantha Mozoomdar, M. A., Baboo Heramb Chandra Maitra, M. A., Baboo Sasibhusan Dutt, M. A., and Baboo Rajendra Kumar Sil, M. A.
Mathematics.—Mr. W. Booth, M. A., Head Examiner; Mr. A. Thompson, M. A., Mr. R. W. Shaw, M. A., Mr. H. A. Lane, M. A., Baboo Ramnath Chatterjee, M. A., Baboo Rajmohun Sen, M. A., Baboo Kalipada Bose, M. A., Baboo Rajkumar Sen, M. A., Baboo Baidyanath Bose, M. A., and Baboo Sarat Chandra Mookerjee, M. A.
Sanskrit and Bengali.—Baboo Nilmoni Mookerjee, M. A., Head Examiner; Baboo Kali Prosonno Bhattacharjya, M. A., Baboo Kunjalal

Nag, M.A., Baboo Umacharan Banerjee, M.A., Baboo Haris Chandra Kaviratna, Baboo Brojonath De, Baboo Rajani Kanta Gupta, Baboo Haridas Sastri, M.A., and Baboo Nirishin Chandra Mookerjee, M.A.

History and Geography.—Mr. H. M. Percival, M.A., Head Examiner; Rev. A. Neut, Baboo G. C. Bose, M.A., Baboo Kali Sankar Sukul, M.A., Baboo Bireswar Chatterjee, M.A., Baboo Khudiram Bose, B.A., Baboo Haridas Gargari, M.A., Baboo Ram Narain Dutta, B.A., Baboo Aditya Kumar Chatterjee, B.A., Baboo Dhanbhallab Sett, M.A., and Baboo Gobind Chandra Das, M.A.

Urdu.—Moulvi Kabiruddin Alnad and Moulvi Amjad Ali.

Hindi.—Rai Sohanlal.

Urdu.—Baboo Ramprosanna Mookerjee.

Latin.—Mr. H. Stephen, M.A., and Rev J. Hector, M.A.

French.—Mons. Louis.

Arabic and Persian.—Col. H. S. Jarrett, Moulvi Abdul Khair, M.A., and Moulvi Ahmad.

The B.A. Examiners and the Head Examiners for Entrance will constitute the Senior Board of University Examiners for 1889.

Next year, we hope the bad bargains still lurking will be struck out.

THE result of the new Four Per Cent Loan of three crores of Rupees is—

Aggregate amount of Tenders	...	7,70,35,300
Minimum rate of accepted Tenders	...	99'11
Tenders at that rate received per cent.	...	60'45
Total amount of accepted Tenders	...	3,00,00,000
Total amount to be received by Government	...	2,90,36,508
Average rate at which Loan is issued	...	99'79

or three annas and five pies below par.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE weather continues cooler from occasional rains throughout the Province, although there has been no down-pouring in wild earnest yet. In Benares and other parts of Upper India, it is still very hot.

THE Emperor William and Bismarck will sail in a week for St. Petersburg. They will be escorted by eight ironclads. The place of meeting between the Emperors has not been yet fixed, it is said; we should think not announced yet, for fear of the Nihilists, against whom Life Guards are no protection, much less ironclads. The object of the meeting seems to "dish" France. Great Britain may as well be on her guard, though. Messrs. Conybeare and Saunders got up a demonstration of 3000 in Trafalgar Square, to protest against the closing of the Square against public meetings. They succeeded in addressing the gathering. In dispersing it, the Police were attacked and there were fights, and several arrests were made. Mr. O'Donnell's suit for £50,000 damages against the *Times* has terminated in a verdict for the defendant. Lord Coleridge ruled that Mr. O'Donnell had no case against the *Times*. Mr. Bradlaugh's Oaths Bill has passed in Committee. On the 2nd July Mr. Balfour introduced a Bill for raising large loans for arterial drainage in Ireland.

THE Board of Revenue is still investigating the charges against Mr. Goodricke. In the meantime, Assessor Rakhaldas Ghose has been dismissed the service and Mr. S. J. Kilby, Superintendent of the Customs Preventive Service, has been put in charge of the Income Tax in addition to his own duties. A queer appointment that, but not more extraordinary than was Mr. Goodricke's own to the Collectorate. Mr. Goodricke himself is anxious to get away. He had applied for one month's privilege leave, but he was then advised to go on furlough, and he withdrew his former application and pressed for six months' furlough, telegraphing to Darjeeling medical certificates in support. But the Board scouts the idea of leave, at any rate—leave out of India. How Mr. Goodricke bewails the absence of Mr. Peacock from the Board! That Patron Saint of panders and noodles had tried to smooth matters for the Collector, but the Government would not be satisfied and wanted more information. Hence the present protracted enquiry, in which great credit is due to the Commissioner. Once he was in for it, he pursued the subject with zeal and singleness of purpose. One of the clerks—the Objection Clerk—named Anubash has already been the victim of the Collector's wrath. He had been examined by the Commissioner, and had deposed to the delinquencies of the office under his observation. He was turned out by Mr. Goodricke. He appealed from the order of the Collector to the Commissioner. In his explanation to the Commissioner, the Collector wanted to prove too much against the clerk. Mr. Smith, without taking the responsibility of reinstatement upon himself, has referred the matter to the Board.

Rakhaldas also considers himself injured and threatens to proceed against Government for wrongful dismissal. He can afford the drain on his purse.

The last news is that Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, has been appointed to act in Mr. Goodricke's place as Collector. An unexceptionable choice. His very enemies acknowledge Baboo Doorgagutty to be one of our best officers in the Executive Service.

THE rules regarding the Benches of Magistrates for Calcutta have been further revised and are published in this week's *Calcutta Gazette*. The Benches seem not to have given satisfaction to the Chief Magistrate. For, these rules aim at uniformity of practice and regular attendance and work. For these purposes, there will a Registrar who will at once be a check on the Magistrates and their Guide, if not Philosopher and Friend. It will be his duty "to assist the Unpaid Presidency Magistrates on any question of practice, &c., that may arise." He will also report weekly to the Chief Magistrate

"(a) the names of such Unpaid Presidency Magistrates as are absent without or on insufficient notice;

(b) the hour at which the Benches sit; and, in the event of any Bench of Magistrates taking its seat after the appointed hour, the reason thereof;

(c) the hours at which the Benches rise, and whether their file of cases has been disposed of;

(d) list of cases disposed of;

(e) list of cases adjourned, and the grounds of such adjournment."

The fifth rule says "the Chief Magistrate may, should he deem it desirable, appoint any Unpaid Presidency Magistrate sitting singly to be a Court, and on business being sent to him by the Chief Magistrate, he shall dispose of the same, but not otherwise." We are afraid the Chief Magistrate goes beyond the law in thus depriving an Unpaid Magistrate of the powers he enjoys equally with the Paid Magistrates. The legislature has made no distinction between a Paid and an Unpaid Magistrate. They are all Presidency Magistrates. The Honorary Magistrates, by these rules, "shall ordinarily open their Courts at noon and rise at 5 P. M. on the dates fixed by the Chief Magistrate. A special Bench may, however, be convened on any other day or at any other hour by the Chief Magistrate." "Adjournments should be, as far as possible, *de die in diem*."

When rules were first framed, we believe the names of the Honorary Magistrates who were considered eligible to be Chairmen of the Benches were *Gazetted*. In the first revision, the Benches were empowered to elect their own Chairmen. In the present rules, the Chief Magistrate takes to himself that authority. No Bench then can begin work without permission of the Chief Magistrate. Is that permission also necessary in adjourned proceedings under rule 12, namely,

"Any part-heard case adjourned by a Bench composed of three Magistrates may be proceeded with on the day fixed for the adjourned hearing before any two of the said Magistrates; provided always that the accused person or persons give his or their consent. All subsequent hearings of the case, where further adjournments are necessary, shall be before the same two Magistrates."

supposing the Chairman of the first day is absent at the adjourned hearing?

The jurisdiction of the Bench had hitherto been unlimited. It could try cases transferred both by the Chief Magistrate and the other Stipendiary. But rule 2 enjoins "Unpaid Presidency Magistrates shall try only such cases as may be referred to them by the Chief Magistrate."

A Correspondent in the *Indian Mirror*, who seems to be a rather knowing wight, is indignant at these rules. He characterizes them as "absurd," "ridiculous," "extremely offensive," and "insulting" to the Honorary Magistrates and the Hon'ble Stipendiary. He leaves Syud Ameer Hossein to fight his own battle and advises the "Benchers" to resign. May it not be that Mr. Mauden has begun to take greater interest in the working of the Courts and proper administration of justice?

Note—true to the name—is easily appeased, forgetting and forgiving. This week it is gracious indeed to the supreme head of the Postal Department in India. To begin with, it grants him the distinction of the opening paragraphs of his opening column. Then it proclaims with the exactitude of a herald all the names and titles of the object of his kind attentions. In fine, our young friend begins his

Sabbath—he publishes on Sunday—with the fervid interjection:—"All honour to Sir Frederick Russell Hogg, K. C. I. E., C. S. I., Director-General of Indian Post Offices," And why? The writer is prepared with his answer, though it rather lessens the effect—"for one of his recent acts of discrimination." A general call to the world to honor a European official for a single act of discrimination! And that from the Young Radicalism of the country—the very Yankee Radical of the Native Press! Surely, the Millennium is within a measurable distance in India, when the lion and the lamb will drink of the same stream and lie down together under the same shade—when the Briton and the Baboo will recognise and treat one another as brothers. Who, after that, will accuse the Bengalis of sedition against Government and of making the lives of officials miserable by continually finding fault with them or carping at them? One instance of discrimination may be an inadequate reason for laudation, but it demonstrates more conclusively the spirit. It shows how ready we are to praise if we have the ghost of a chance. The vials of vitriol might be reserved for the Viceroy or the local Government, but an official below the highest may easily obtain more than fairplay.

In point of fact, our contemporary does not build his complaisance on a single case. He speaks of "one of his (the Director-General's) recent acts." Evidently there have been other recent acts. The writer does not specify them, but roundly avers—

"He (the Director-General) has upheld his reputation of being a friend of the Natives by appointing as his Secretary Rai Ram Outar Sing Bahadur, Superintendent of the Sorting Division of the Railway Mail Service. This is the very first time that a Native of India has been appointed to the responsible and honourable post in question."

So far as honor is due for this act, we are ready to give. But we know nothing of other acts. The reputation which is ascribed to Sir Frederick Hogg has been just the other way. Perhaps he was too distracted by the gallantries in his family to cultivate any other kind of reputation.

WE are all familiar with—many of our military readers at Divisional Head-Quarters in the interior and at up-country cantonments to their cost—"Mrs. General" and "Mrs. Colonel." It was left to the Salvationist movement to introduce the further anomaly of "Miss General," "Miss Colonel," and so forth. Bad form and awkward as it is, a "Mrs. General" or "Mrs. Captain" is not quite unintelligible—the meaning may be guessed with some hope of a hit. But a Miss with a military rank is a mystery. As for guessing, one is afraid to launch into it. A "Miss General (say) Florence" is suggestive of not the most proper associations. Of course, the idea would be monstrous libel in the Joana Arc of Salvation. But so long as the human is as it is, the influence of language on it is not, cannot always, be thoroughly staid. On this ground, therefore, if for no other, we are glad that the Joan of the War of Righteousness has been fairly tired of the state of single-blessedness. In joining herself to *Major* Tucker, Miss *General* Booth may seem to have married beneath her—her rank at any rate. But it is not so, for the Major is the head of the Salvationists—that is Field Marshall commanding the Army to which the lady also belongs.

There is perhaps a touch of unpleasant self-consciousness in the reasons she late—we do not mean the deceased—Miss gives for the important step she has just taken. She was actuated by no yearning of her own heart. She received a "call." That call was not like the call to the ministry, a call from Heaven, however. It was a call from India—the reverse of the famous Baxterian call, "a call from the unconverted." Notwithstanding, we hope to see of this holy union the usual fruits—prolific fruits of flesh and blood we mean. In prudent consideration for the present and prospective wants of the new household, the Salvationist brethren and sisters have provided a dower of £5,000. And this not a matter of settlement on paper or parchment, but the money was paid down at the wedding ceremony, before the guests dispersed. An exemplary proof how British religious Fakirs and Derweshes even in their sublime flights of religious excitement, do not allow themselves to be unmindful of the main chance, and are careful of guarantees in respect of such needs of the flesh as they might still acknowledge. The whole thing was characteristic—orderly and prudent to perfection like a bank transaction. Our Asiatics would have gone wildly about it from beginning to end, unconscious of the morrow.

The event may hereafter prove an encumbrance, but the Cause will will not be without its compensations. The Holy Army will be recruited by the operation of the physical laws of Nature, just as population is increased. Whether this is a gain on the whole, let the

Romanists question. In any case, the Salvation Army by this step proves itself Protestant to a fault.

SPIRITUALISM—a distinctly American produce—has lately been brought to unenviable notoriety in the Empire City. In the course of the trial in New York, in April last, of a notorious wench, Editha Montez alias Madame Diss Debar, the wretch who was the partner of her bigamous or polygamous marriage, if such an adulterine intercourse deserved to be dignified with that name, Diss Debar, with perfect sang froid, admitted having a wife and children at Philadelphia, but then that was his "financial wife." As for the "lady" at his side—meaning the harlot Montez, Madame Montez if you will—that was his spiritual wife.

At the same time, news came from Europe that one of the famous American professional spiritualist sisterhood the Misses Fox, whose fame as "mediums" has gone to the ends of the Earth, has come to grief in Holland. It was Kate. Her elder sister had fascinated the sturdy American Arctic discoverer Captain Kane and become his wife. Kate ran a more distinguished and brilliant career. After the highest reputation in her native country, she went out to conquer the world, and she earned the right to the Cæsarian boast. She performed throughout Europe, before crowds as before crowned heads, under the eye of mature men of the world as well as men of law and scientific enquirers, with perfect success, without a single *contretemps*, without the slightest suspicion of deceit. She had innumerable offers, and at last deigned to accept the hand of a German nobleman, by whom she was installed in his castle with princely appointments and concomitants and accessories, till she ruined him. Again she reverted to her mediumship, gave *stances* and again found herself in wealth and at the head of a luxurious establishment. But her extravagance knew no bounds. Besides, this spiritual girl was by no means a lady or a nice person at all. Her habits were gross and she kept bad company. In this manner, she ran through several fortunes. And now she is a drunken old hag at Haarlem with barbarous children "growing" in Topsy-fashion without care. It was her inability to support them that brought her to the Police Court of that city and discovered her whereabouts and very existence. No wonder that in America her case should attract special notice and cause some sensation and no little discredit to the influence of spiritualism. When the very Sybils and prophetesses of the Faith are not refined, what may be expected of the rank and file of believers? it is naturally asked.

Under the circumstances, the Rev. Dr. Talmage, the eminent New York preacher, who from the pulpit has lately denounced spiritualism in no measured terms, can scarcely be blamed. The sermon called up a well-known advocate known as Judge Daly in America a lawyer who has once held judicial office may be ever afterwards called Judge—in reply. Mr. Daly seems to be the successor in spiritualist circles of Judge Edmonds, whose name used formerly to be invoked in evidence of the claims of Spiritualism. He has challenged Dr. Talmage to a conference in the longest hall in the city, undertaking to pay half the expenses, where he pledges to give substantial ocular proof of the phenomena. But the Rev. Padre shows no signs of taking up the glove. He contents himself with calling names, denouncing the Spiritualists, mediums and operators as cheats, and their believers as dupes and fools.

We are bound to note that "Judge" Daly on his honor declares that "he has seen materializations, and that they have approached him and he touched them, and then that they vanished into thin air."

WE see that the *Madras Law Times & General Observer* reprints from our columns Mr. Justice Trevelyan's judgment in the Jain case, nearly three columns, without acknowledgment, although it duly names the *Englishman* for three quarter columns of a law report.

The leading article in the same issue is headed, sensationally to be sure, rather than meaningly, "Foe or Friend." It opens with the remark, "Mr. Meredith Townsend is one of those Anglo-Indians that have the courage of their convictions," and seems to have for its subject that gentleman's last utterance. But no such thing. Only a second time does his name occur among those of "persons of the sort of Sir W. Hunter, Mr. Meredith Townsend, Sir H. Mayne, &c." A fine assortment, surely! It would be impossible to mention two writers so dissimilar in every literary and political characteristic—in style, in method, in cast of thought, in views on Indian affairs—than Sir William Hunter and Mr. Meredith Townsend. Neither is a typical Anglo-Indian, the latter is hardly one at all. Sir William has just retired

from India, Mr. Townsend was here in the last century as it were. Sir William retains full touch of India—Mr. Townsend keeps the slightest possible. He had been in India, that is all. The whole of the modern epoch since the Mutiny, he has no personal experience of. Several years ago, he wrote to a correspondent in this country that, after twenty-five years, Calcutta has become a name to him. Mr. J. Fergusson, the great architect and archæologist, might just as well be called a Bengal Planter, because he had, in early life, been engaged in the indigo Districts, as Mr. Townsend called, without reservation, an Anglo-Indian, because he had, a quarter century back, been in India.

As for Sir H. Mayne, we positively know no such person or sort of persons. There was a Mayne in Madras, but he has not yet been knighted, though he would make a better knight than several of the lucky dogs in either of the Indian Orders, and, besides, he is J. D., not H. Mayne. But supposing there was an extraordinary mistake here, where has Mr. J. D. Mayne ever distinguished himself except in the quiet profession of the law? Where did he give "the concurring, sanctifying, and unimpeachable evidence," of which the *Observer* makes such laudatory mention? There is another surname of the same sound, that of Sir Henry Sumner Maine, but he is dead, and if the testimony of the dead were eligible, the writer had the choice of dozens on either side. Nor can we guess what deliverance of Sir H. S. Maine he refers to. Our impression of that unamiable Pandit has ever been unfavourable.

THE Criminal Sessions commenced on Monday and continued the whole week, Mr. Justice Wilson presiding. The first case taken up was the boy Sunnoo's torture by the Police. It concluded only yesterday. The Jury were unanimous that the Police had inflicted the torture, and that Inspector Boyd had no hand in it, but they were not agreed as to the identity of the three native constables. Six were for acquittal and three for conviction. The Judge accepted the verdict of the majority and the doubts of the Jury as to identity, and acquitted all the four prisoners. The Jurors were either Europeans or Eurasians, all the Native Jurymen called being challenged by the defence. Mr. Hill defended the Inspector and Mr. Palit the constables. The European barrister threw the whole blame on the constables, torture being, in his opinion, an Eastern mode of extorting confession, to which his European client could not possibly be a party. Poor Mr. Hill apparently had not heard of one Francis Bacon who somewhere, in the 16th century, successively held the offices of Attorney-General and Chancellor in some country in Europe. But, then, whose word is it and what is its derivation? And the *rack*, *thumbkin* and *thumbscrew*—what language are they? Or, are they European vocables coined in philologic philanthropy and shipped to the East, with mercenary soldiers, civilians, barristers, missionaries and such other blessings, for the temporal convenience and eternal salvation of the Orientals? The native barrister resented in Court the imputation on his country and meanness to his clients, and out of it had almost a scuffle with his learned friend.

The Police is in jubilee, for it was the Police that was on its trial. The Force raised a defence fund which was administered by the Deputy Commissioner. The trial proves that torture is in the ascendant in the Police, and difficult to detect. Its effect will be to make the Police still more cautious to keep out evidence of their guilt.

THE other sensational case—the commitment of a whole family for forgery—was early in the week postponed for a fortnight.

THE death of the adopting mother has precipitated the suit by the Dowager Maharani against the late scandalous adoption in the Burdwan Raj. Her plaint is ready and will probably be filed next week. Messrs. Woodroffe, Pugh, Gasper and O'Kinealy have been retained by Maharani Narain Kumari. Sir Gregory Paul and Mr. Evans already hold general retainers from Lala Bunbehary Kapur. The Dowager Maharani claims the Raj as the next heir after the death of her husband, his adopted son and that son's widow. The suit is a matter of course, Sir Stuart Bayley himself sanctioned the adoption that the matter might be taken to court, which alone could decide it satisfactorily. The plaint is to be filed in the Original Side of the High Court. Baboo Nalinaksha Basu, Pleader, Burdwan, and Gonesh Chunder Chunder, the foremost attorney of the High Court, will instruct counsel on behalf of the Maharani.

IN the meantime, the local Government has begun to treat the Maharani more liberally. It has ordered an increase of Rs. 4,000 to her monthly allowance making up the sum to 9,000.

THE claim of the Maharani to the jewellery, her stridhan, is being investigated. It was originally agreed upon that the Collector Mr. Coxhead would arbitrate the matter, or that four-fifths of the jewels be handed over to the Maharani. But Mr. Coxhead is away from Burdwan, the Court of Wards would not agree to part with the jewels without a contest. The matter was ultimately referred to the arbitration of Mr. Pugh. Lala Bun Behary ignores altogether the claim of the Maharani to the jewellery. According to him, they form part of the Raj, she being allowed only to use them during the lifetime of her husband. Mr. Pugh has not yet made his award.

THE Lieutenant-Governor arrived from Darjeeling to-day. His Principal Secretaries of State are however left behind in the Hills. Mr. Macaulay will, he believe, soon join his Chief, but Mr. Edgar, we are sorry to learn, is ailing, and Dr. Ray has been called up.

We believe the Lieutenant-Governor has come especially to inquire personally on the spot into the scandals of the Calcutta Collectorate and the Income Tax department. The Presidency Commissioner has for some weeks been daily attending the office of the Board of Revenue on that business.

It would be as well if Sir Stuart Bayley took the opportunity to inquire into the connection of one of his officials with a Jain litigation.

WE have but one fact to add to the history of the official career of an Indian Civilian that we gave last week—all from official papers—in the leading article "The Daniel of Patna." To the honor of the British Indian Association, that body, under the hand of their Honorary Secretary, Maharaja Jotendro Mohun Tagore, sent up a spirited representation against Mr. Kirkwood's extraordinary proceedings in Chittagong to the Lieutenant-Governor, and got a snub for their pains from the Civilian Government. The matter, however, went up in due course to the Government of India, and this is the notice which the Viceroy in Council took of the matter, to wit—

"In reply I am to say that the Governor-General in Council feels bound to express the gravest disapprobation of Mr. Kirkwood's conduct in the matter, and is of opinion that he has been leniently dealt with. But under all the circumstances represented, it is not considered necessary to disturb Sir R. Temple's orders or to press any further action against Mr. Kirkwood. That gentleman should however be warned that any repetition of similar intemperate and insubordinate conduct, especially in connection with his judicial duties, will be most severely dealt with."

LAST Tuesday, in a well-known thoroughfare near the Aphim-ka Chowraha, Burrabazar, at 9 in the morning, a Marwari dealer in Germansilver ware, while sitting in front of his shop writing up his account book with his back to the street, was struck from behind by half a dozen Upcountry roughs called *goohdas*, who have become more than ever the pest of that busy part of the native town, who pursued their victim even when he ran into the recess of his shop for shelter, and there dealt blows on him, and then made themselves scarce. The man bled profusely and reported himself to the Police. But no enquiring officer came to the spot. On Friday, in front of Baboo Juggannath Khanna's place of business, in the same quarter, there was a street fight in which the knife was freely used and a man was cut in the arm. Whether out of regard for Baboo Khanna or what, the Police bestirred themselves in the matter and succeeded in arresting the parties, and there was an enquiry on the spot.

These are now common occurrences in Burra Bazar. No man's honor or person is safe. The city has been flooded with bad characters, who live by blackmail or by lending themselves to be tools of revenge of others. If Mr. Lambert can give a good account of these rascals, he may be pardoned for not finding stolen property.

And here we may as well draw his attention to the pest of volunteer brokers—Dalals—in common shopping in the same quarter, which has become simply intolerable. It is another phase of the same Rough business.

BY this our readers have had time to ponder on the judgment in the late Jain case which we published in full a few weeks back. We have neither time nor space to-day to enter into a narrative of this interesting litigation—so interesting indeed that a Government official has voluntarily gone to the risk of nearly seven lacs for one of the parties—but one remark we may make. It will be seen that the High Court admittedly decides the case on the general principles of the law applicable to Upcountry Hindus, instead of on those of Jain Law. It called for evidence on Jain Law, but did not after all care for it. Pandits were invited at great expense from the Jain country in the far West, who produced their Scriptures—venerable manuscripts—and then the Court fell back upon Custom—a few unauthoritative modern

instances. And yet both sides appealed to the Jain Law—not Custom but veritable *Sastra*—the Jain Scripture. At first, indeed, the Claimant Lab Chand claimed under the *Mitakshara*—the authority which governs the non-Bengali Hindus generally—but, at a later stage, he declared, in his answer filed, that that had been a mistake on his part, and he prayed that his case might be decided according to the Jain Law. The opposite side, from the first, contended under the sacred Code of the Jains. Yet, in the face of this concurrent prayer, the Court went out of its way.

There are some recent or still pending Jain suits in Calcutta and Moorshedabad, which have a bearing on the point. We shall try to give the particulars in our next.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1888.

J. X

PROGRESS OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE EXPERIMENT.

THE Government of Bengal has won no small degree of popularity, by its recent abandonment of some of the privileges which it had originally retained in its hands, under the scheme of Local Self-Government. A large number of Municipalities have been allowed to elect their own Chairmen, and Sir Steuart Bayley is also prepared to give up the power of nominating a proportion of the Commissioners in favour of the people. Both these measures are intended to afford an extension to the elective principle on which Local Self-Government is based, and as that principle is highly valued by the people, they are naturally much pleased to find that the jealous caution with which the late *régime* guarded the working of municipalities, has given place to more trustful confidence in the people on the part of their present Ruler.

So far as these measures afford a proof that Local Self-Government has already proved a success in the eyes of Government, they are a gratifying testimony to the fitness of the people to take care of their own parochial affairs, while that success gives force to the demand which the entire country, through the mouth of its Congress, has put forth for a more substantial concession of representative government. Indeed, there are indications from more than one quarter that the Government cannot long be deaf to that demand. Lord Dufferin, as we said last week, is credited with being in real sympathy with the political aspirations of the people, and, for aught we know, his administration may, before its close, connect itself with a measure of constitutional reform for which posterity will not let its memory soon die. Time may be wanting to carry his views into practical execution, but it will be enough if his Lordship places them on record, and endeavours to give the weight of his influence to obtain their recognition by the Government at Home.

In the meantime, anything likely to place the working of Local Self-Government upon a wider and more satisfactory basis, cannot but be welcome to those who have the political advancement of the country at heart. As an instrument of political training, Local Self-Government is destined to exercise a great influence for good, and we cannot but congratulate our local bodies in the country upon the attitude of Sir Steuart Bayley towards the scheme. The extension of the elective constitution, which will take place under the orders of the Government referred to, will have a most reassuring effect upon the administration

of Local Self-Government. The time, however, has fairly come when the Government might go a step further, and take such steps as would tend to more really strengthen the hands of these local magnates and invest them with greater dignity. The present measures proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal relate to the constitution of the municipal Boards, but what is wanted for the efficient conduct of business by these Boards, is an extension, under discreet safeguards, of their power. Their position should be invested with an air of more authority, and more cordial support should be accorded to them by Government, when they are beset by difficulties of detail in the transaction of business.

The success of Local Self-Government, like that of many things besides, is often a question of money. If our local authorities have adequate funds placed at their disposal, the administration of affairs will presumably be efficient, and successful in general estimation. But the financial difficulty is a powerful drawback everywhere, so far as our information goes. The local authorities are, indeed, invested by law with power to impose and levy a number of taxes, which are expected to yield a revenue sufficient for their purposes. But the municipal taxes are so devised and, in fact, are so repugnant to the spirit of the people, as to be a more fruitful source of irritation than of profit. We think the people are well pleased to pay a land tax, and are scarcely conscious of the taxation which is collected by indirect means. But the house-tax, modelled and practically administered on the principle of the Income-tax, is an object of universal detestation, and is submitted to only through fear of the officiousness, which has all along administered it. The official administration of the municipalities having terminated, there is now the greatest difficulty felt in the collection of the municipal rates. A thorough unloosening of authority has taken place, and municipal bills are now realised much under the same terms as bills for voluntary subscriptions. Such, at any rate, is the information brought to us from some quarters, and we have no reason to distrust it. The tax is essentially so unpopular that people are not unlikely to evade it, where they possibly can do so with impunity. The collecting staff under the non-official authorities are put off under one pretence or another, till the regular time fixed by the law for the collection of the bills expires. Bills for several quarters accumulate on their hands, and neither they, nor their masters, the municipal authorities, dare put the legal machinery of distraint in operation. The orders for distraint issued by non-official authorities carry no terrors, and instances have happened where they have been resisted with every circumstance of violence and insult. Nor have the non-official town-corporators any practical redress at the hands of the constituted magisterial authorities in such cases. A case in our knowledge lately took place in a neighbouring municipality, where the municipality, after suffering disgrace and loss of *prestige* from violent resistance to its order for the attachment of property, lodged a complaint against the village Hamden, but the magistrate, upon some technical plea, dismissed the case, and the municipality had to recover its composure of mind, if not its violated dignity, after spending some good money after bad. Other cases with a similar termination, illustrating the absence of touch between the magisterial and municipal authorities, and tending to lower the dignity of the municipal administration in public estimation, are not unknown.

As a consequence heavy arrears in the collection of the taxes have accrued in most places, and there are some municipalities which are hardly in a position to maintain their credit. We have stated the facts as they have been represented to us. Without offering any suggestions on the subject, for the present, we must say that the above* discloses a state of things of too grave a character to be allowed to continue, while it cannot fail to have the most paralysing effects upon the administration of municipal affairs. The financial administration of municipalities, and the methods by which Government may well strengthen it, are matters which we have scarcely left ourselves space to dwell upon in the present article, and we must return to the subject soon.

THE SUPPLEMENTARY HONOURS LIST.

THE Crown in India seems to labour under an unaccountable infirmity of purpose. As the Fountain of Honour, it hardly knows its mind. It was understood that the Fountain had been drained to the dregs in the Tropical showers and Deluge of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and was finally left dry by the tapping on New Year's Day. And it was authoritatively announced by those who most speculate on the grave subject—including in our community the *Mirror*—that there would be no drop forthcoming on what may in Hindu parlance be called the *Ambabachi* of Her Majesty's Birth-day. Nevertheless, there was a drizzle on the holiday in question, just enough to revive a number of thirsty loyal subjects. It was a surprise, however—a surprise, we were afterwards told, as much to the Government of India as to the public.

But there is no end to the graciousness of the Crown. The Fountain is an inexhaustible reservoir, prompt to relieve with its healing waters respectable citizens afflicted with doxomania, and even capable of blessing with its sprays of recognition the lives of honest human worth, or recognising good service to the state. So, surprise upon surprise, here comes, in the middle of the year, a Supplementary List—a few late drops—of Honours. We are informed by telegraph, from the Press Commissioner's office, that the following gentlemen have been made

Knights Commander of the Indian Empire.—Maharajah Harendra Kishore Singh Bahadur of Bettiah; Hon'ble Gregory Charles Paul, C. I. E., Advocate-General, Bengal; and Maharajah Narendra Krishna of Calcutta.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased to confer, as a personal distinction, the following titles on the gentlemen named against each:

Nazim.—Syed Mahammad Takee Khan, Zemindar in the District of Mozufferpore.

Raja.—Kumar Gyanoda Kant Roy of Chanchra, in the Jessore District.

Khan Bahadur.—Syed Kazi Reza Hossein of Patna.

Rai Bahadur.—Babu Ganga Pershad of Durbhungah; Babu Hurry Mohun Thacoar, Zemindar of Berary in the District of Bhagulpore; Babu Shanker Dyal Singh, Honorary Magistrate, in the Shahabad District; Babu Bepin Behary Dutt, Government Pleader of Midnapore; Babu Surja Kumar Pandit, District Engineer in Moorshedabad.

Many of the names are too local for recognition by the general public, but the District officers who make the recommendations doubtless know their men well, and their favorite *Chaprasis* best of all. We are glad that poor Bettiah, weighed down by the double encumbrance of body and estate, has got this crumb of comfort. Our Sobhabazar noble is also to be congratulated on his attaining the acme of ambition. He had been balked too long. Sir Steuart Bayley has stood him in better stead than his own patron Sir Rivers Thompson. The young Zemindar of Chanchra has only got his due, being Raja by *vox populi*, whether an alien Government recognise

him or not. Son of Barodakanta the Good, he is the representative of one of the old landed Houses in the land. We hope he will merit higher honors: Hurry Mohan Thakur Sheb could scarcely in decency be longer overlooked. After so much has been made of the Kalwars in the Monghyr and Bhagulpore country all this time by the officials, the poor Brahman has been rescued from the shade. The best name to our mind on the list of the new Roy Bahadoors is that of the Government Pleader in Midnapore. We do not know this gentleman and we are not partial to pleaders as a class. But he is highly spoken of, and there is no doubt of the great influence of the class in the country, an influence which is on the increase, an increase which nothing can check. It is wise in the Government to recognise the importance of these native lawyers. We would not have titles indiscriminately showered on them however, and for two reasons. It does not matter that they are new men. The British Court is a new Court, and its lesser Omrahs must, many of them, be new men. But the *vakeels*, as a rule, are wanting in public spirit, and they usually do not live as befits their position and opulence. Baboo Bepin Behary Dutt is an exception. His style, we are told, is that of a thorough gentleman. We shall return to the general subject, with special reference to the native pleaders and attorneys of the High Court, on a future day, and will now conclude with our hearty satisfaction at the well-deserved recognition of the Advocate-General's claim. We have not the pleasure of his acquaintance, but have had ample opportunities of watching him as one of the prominent members of the Calcutta community, and we can honestly say that Mr. Paul has been much too long neglected. He has not only been for a long series of years the official leader of the Calcutta bar and chief law adviser of the Crown, but he has been for a generation one of the opulent citizens of the town, ready to every call of duty, and in all the amenities of life. He is one of the leading Omrahs of Christian Calcutta. His knighthood is also a just recognition of the claims of that Armenian community which once played so important a part in the history of India, specially in building up the fabric of British Power, and still plays it in Turkey, Egypt, Persia and Burma, of which Mr. Paul is now the head.

WE have great satisfaction in laying before our readers the results of the last medical competition. The following have passed the 1st M. B. Examination.

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| 1. Virginia Mary Mitra. | } First Division. |
| 2. Noresh Chunder Mitra. | |
| 3. Grish Chunder Dey. | |
| 4. Manmatha Nath Chatterjee. | |
| 5. Trishita Nath Sinha. | |
| 6. Grish Chunder Ghosh. | |
| 7. Bidu Mukhi Bose, also Chuni Lal Nandi and Gopal Chunder Ghose. | |

The list is in order of merit. The last two, Nandi and Ghose, have barely passed. The first and seventh of those marked for distinction, are, it is worthy of remark, ladies. Two girl graduates among seven candidates of both sexes, who have passed with distinction, is indeed a remarkable success and proof of social progress. The education of women has nowhere yet proceeded so far and so generally, specially in the sciences and the learned professions, but that such a fact would be one for gratulation in any part of the world, howsoever advanced. In India, where this education for the males has just commenced as it were, where the University is scarcely a generation old, where women have been admitted to the medical school within the last few years, the fact is of proportionally greater significance. We have been at some pains to inquire and we are assured that the examination was strict; no favour was shown to creed or sex. The ladies have won in fair field. Both are gems of students and Virginia is a brilliant.

The First M. B. is the serious part of the business, the second or final examination being comparatively a formality. The nine who have passed the First Test are, therefore, sure of their degrees, if they care for it. With or without it, they are recognised proficient.

In view of the great movement inaugurated by Lady Dufferin for the relief of Indian womankind, the success of the ladies is most timely. We are sure both ladies will find honorable and useful employment under the Society. If Miss Mitra is the first in the First Division, Miss Bose, we learn, is a remarkable student of science with powers of observation keener and knowledge more practical and, therefore, genuine than all the rest of the competition.

The results of the Second M. B. are as follows :—

FIRST DIVISION.—Nilratan Sarkar.

SECOND DIVISION.—Sureschandra Basu, Syamnirad Das Gupta, Purnachandra Nandi, Akshaykumar Pal, Mahendranath Sen.

Only two students have been admitted in the First L. M. S., namely, — Bhagabatikumar Chaudhuri and Amritalal Sarkar.

IN Engineering, only eight students have passed the First Examination, in the Second Division :—

W. S. Bremner, Adharlal Chandra, Kshiradchandra Mukhopadhyay, Krishnadhan Bandyopadhyay, Saratchandra Sen, J. B. Godfrey, Jnanendranath Gangopadhyay, Satyaranjan Khastgir.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

XX.

AKBAR.

Akbar probably would not have left his new conquest so early, but he hastened his return to Hindustan, by reason of the accounts he had received of the refractory conduct of his eldest son Selim. This prince was now about thirty years of age, and it would appear that he was not deficient in natural abilities, but had almost ruined these natural powers, by gross indulgences. He was addicted to the excessive use both of wine and opium, and by such habits had no doubt impaired his mental powers; as a fact he did so impair these faculties, that he became liable to ungovernable fits of fury. In one of these outbursts of rage, he ordered an offender to be flayed alive. When Akbar heard of this atrocity, he turned away, in unconcealed disgust; for Akbar could not bear to see even a dead beast flayed, without a sense of pain, and therefore he could not but feel the greatest repugnance and surprise that a son of his could be guilty of such conduct to a fellow being. On another occasion, Selim instigated, and had carried out by his Agents, the murder of Abul Fazl, one of the most trusted and honoured of his father's ministers. When Akbar heard of Abul Fazl's sad fate, he wept bitterly, and past two days and nights without sleep: he seems never to have discovered his son's share in the base crime. We are told, by Selim himself, that in his youth he used to drink about five quarts of wine a day, and that in consequence he was thoroughly nerveless, and his hands shook, as if palsied, if he remained for a single hour without his accustomed stimulant. After he ascended the throne, we are told, he reduced the quantity he drank daily to one-fourth, and that he never drank in public, but after nightfall. It is probable that he did not adhere to the rule regarding quantity, though he avoided any public display of intemperance. Drinking seems to have been the vice of the age among Mussulmans, their kings and their great men alike drank hard; Baber and Humayun are notable examples, while Akbar is an honourable exception.

Akbar, on his departure for the Deccan, had declared Selim his successor, appointed him Viceroy of Ajmir, and committed to him the conduct of the war with the Rana of Oudipore; for that restless young chief was again trying to obtain possession of his hereditary dominions. After many delays, and much hesitation, Selim at last set forth to, accomplish this task, but he stopt on the way, and then attempted to seize the province of Hindustan, unrighteously for himself. He marched to Agra, but the governor of that

Holloway's Pills and Ointment—Vicissitudes of climate, exposure and hardships, tell heavily on soldiers and sailors, sowing the seeds of diseases which may ultimately break up the constitution. Naturally careless of their health a word in season may avert many evils, and may cause them to resort to timely measures without any difficulty or publicity. Holloway's effectual remedies are so suitable, and are so easily adapted for the varied complaints to which our soldiers and sailors are liable, that a supply should always be obtained before proceeding abroad. It may with confidence be stated that many a valuable life might have been saved, or confirmed cripple prevented from begging in the streets, if Holloway's remedies had been used in time.

city foiled him in his attempt to get possession of it. He then proceeded to Allahabad, and soon held possession of Oudh and Behar. At the same time he seized the local treasure of the Government, amounting to thirty lacs of rupees, and assumed the title of king. Akbar, as might be expected, was much afflicted when he received intelligence of the conduct of his son. He determined, however, to act with prudence, so as not to drive him to extremities. With this intention he wrote a very temperate letter to Selim, setting clearly forth his evil acts, and showing him what the consequences would be if he continued in his present course. After warning him thus, he changed the tone of the epistle to affectionate entreaty, and concluded the letter with assurances of his undiminished affection, if he would return in time to the path of his duty. Akbar followed this letter in person, and doubtless his near approach had more effect than the epistle. Selim replied in very submissive terms and marched to meet his father, then changed his mind, stopt at Etayah, and began raising troops with much assiduity. Akbar hearing that he had collected a considerable body of men, desired him to advance with only an escort, or to return to Allahabad. Selim fell back on Allahabad.

Akbar was still desirous of avoiding an open rupture with his son, and for the purpose of conciliating him, offered him a grant of Bengal and Orissa, which latter had also been absorbed in the empire. This offer was accepted by Selim with renewed and profound professions of fidelity and devotion, all which expressions, however, had a hollow ring. A more satisfactory reconciliation was at last effected through the intervention of Selima Sultana, one of the emperor's wives, who had adopted Selim, after his own mother's death. It was Akbar, however, who sent this lady to him, to endeavour to soothe his mind and heal the breach. The attempt proved successful, and the prince repaired to Court, and made his submission. He was received by Akbar with much kindness, and the privilege of wearing the royal ornaments, was conferred on him. Selim afterwards returned to his almost independent position at Allahabad, and became more than ever debauched.

Selim was now Akbar's only son, for both his other sons, Morad and Danyal, were dead; the latter a victim to intemperance. Akbar's only hope of continuing his great empire, rested on this remaining son, and, failing him, on his two most likely grandsons, Khusrow, and Khurram, the former was the eldest, but was as bad as his father, or even worse, being full of levity and of a violent disposition. Khurram was Akbar's and a general favourite.

XXI.

Akbar's public life was one of astonishing magnificence, yet the pomp of his court was befitting so great a potentate. It is stated that his stud comprised 5,000 elephants, and 12,000 horses, besides vast hunting and hawking establishments. His camp equipage consisted of tents and portable houses, which used to be enclosed in a high wall composed of canvas screens, and contained immense reception halls, apartments for entertainments, galleries for exercise, with chambers for retirement. The whole was made of the most costly materials and well adapted to the purpose of the most luxurious enjoyment. The camp itself covered a space of nearly five miles across, and, viewed from a height, afforded a most glorious spectacle, looking like a beautiful city of tents, with regulated streets. The whole wall and each tent was painted red on the outside, but within were varied colours and patterns; and all being surmounted with gilded globes and pinnacles, added to the gorgeousness of the display.

Such was the ordinary camp of Akbar. But it was at the annual feasts, and on the anniversary of the king's birthday, the Eastern grandeur was fully displayed, and this display was continued for several days, during which a fair was held. All this time there were pompous shows and processions. On these occasions the emperor's tent was set up, and it occupied at least two acres of ground, which was spread with silken and gold carpets. The tent was of the richest materials, while the hangings were of valuable velvet, embroidered with gold, pearls, and precious stones. The pavilions of the nobles, which were scattered around the emperor's tent, were on a similar scale of magnificence—here they received visits from each other, and sometimes from the emperor.

During these days of festival the emperor bestowed rich presents on his nobles, which consisted of dresses, jewels,

horses, and elephants. It was also customary for the emperor to weigh himself in golden scales, against silver, gold, and perfumes, in succession, when all this wealth was distributed among the spectators. Afterwards, large trays, filled with almonds and other fruits, made of gold and silver, were placed before him, these he scattered with his own hand, and they were eagerly caught up by the courtiers, though of small intrinsic value.

On the great day of the festival, the emperor repaired to his marble palace and seated himself on his throne—around him, in groups, stood his nobles of high degree, arrayed in gorgeous apparel, their turbans adorned with high feather plumes, sparkling with diamonds and other precious stones which glittered like stars in the firmament. While the emperor was thus seated and attended, hundreds and hundreds of elephants marched past in the open, in companies, the leading animal of each band having his head and breast adorned with golden plates, studded with rubies and emeralds. The elephants were succeeded by trains of richly caparisoned horses, and these were followed by lines of rhinoceroses, lions, tigers, and panthers, hunting leopards, hounds, and hawks. An innumerable host of cavalry glittering in cloth of gold, closed the procession.

Nothing shows more clearly Akbar's self-government, than the fact, that in the midst of all this pageantry and splendour, he was always remarkable, as much for his simplicity, as dignity. It is stated that there was nothing of the coldness or stiffness of other Asiatic Princes, about him, he was affable though majestic, and when severe, always merciful. It is memorable that he always stood or sat *below the throne*, when administering justice. This action of his conveys a wholesome lesson. Justice was meant to be independent of power.

To the common people of his realms he was most affable, ever receiving them, or their presents, with more grace and ceremony, than he bestowed on the great and the noble. Hence he was loved and revered by his own people, while he

was a terror to his enemies, or to evil-doers within his realm. It must puzzle the student of history, why Aurangzib is the favourite of Mussulmans of the present time, as he was of generations gone by. Aurangzib was a ruthless bigot, and his life was lived on a much lower plane than that of Akbar. In fact, there can be no genuine comparison between the two. For it is to his internal policy that Akbar owes his place among the highest order of princes, whose lives have been a blessing to mankind; and his policy was ever marked by a spirit of toleration in matters of religion, even during that period when Akbar was a strict follower of the Prophet and held to the infallibility of the Koran. It was late in life that he openly declared his latitudinarian opinions.

Akbar was a great patron of letters and literary men. His constant and deep attachment for the brothers, Feizi and Abul Fazl, was owing to the great literary ability of these men; and it was Feizi who, under the emperor's directions, applied himself to the diligent study of Hindu literature and science, obtaining a mastery over these subjects, as taught by the great Hindu *savants*. It was Feizi also, who showed great industry in conducting a systematic inquiry into every branch of the knowledge of the Brahmans. Besides Sanskrit poetical and philosophical works, he made a version of the "Bija Ganita" and "Lilavati" of Bhaskara Acharya, which were considered the best Hindu treatises on Algebra and Arithmetic. Akbar likewise had translations made from the Sanskrit, by other learned men, among which may be mentioned, the Vedas, "Maha Bharata," and "Ramayana," also the "History of Cashmir," which last was the only specimen of that sort of composition in Sanskrit prose. Further, Akbar obtained the services of a Christian priest from Goa, to undertake the education of young men, who would afterwards be employed as translators of Greek literature into Persian. A correct Persian translation of the four Evangelists was produced under authority.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there, is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1888.

No. 332

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

MATTHEW ARNOLD.

WEEP, if ye have the power to weep,
All flowers of odorous and musical names
That haunt the woodland or the wave of Thames—
Weep, if ye have the power to weep,
Let soft dews your quaint eyelids steep,
Fling incense from your many-colour'd flames.

Mourn, if ye have the power to mourn,
Glaciers and Alpine firs—ye too, sea-isles !—
For he is gone who sang your primal smiles,
Ere each was from the other torn,
In those strange Summers unforlorn
Ere ye were parted by the sad blue miles.

Spirits ! if joy perforce must dwell
Where Arnold's graceful light upon you breaks,
Goethe and all his golden-thoughted Greeks,
If ye must hail such stranger well,
At least amidst your asphodel
Let roll in silver up the shadowy creeks

Some rippled tidings of our woe,—
For ah ! we miss the voice that nobly sings
The central calm thro' all disquietings ;
The far-off light that circles so
The line of everlasting snow ;
The beauty hidden in the heart of things.

And we in these cold April bowers,
Since Laleham's sod enwrap'd his hands and feet,
Are poorer by a stately presence sweet—
And miss thro' all the wealth of flow'rs
The phrase that made them doubly ours,
Poet of fields, of moons, of Marguerite.

Poet, in our poor flurried time,
Of fine completeness and of lucid ease ;
Fair Master of old songs' superbest keys,
Magician of the fetterless chime,
Free from the fatal sweets of rhyme,
In Sophoclean form and cadences,—
Poet of exquisite regret ;
Of lines that aye on Time's confused height
Out of the storm shall stand in stars of white ;
Of thoughts in deepening distance set
Perfect in pictured epithet
Touch'd with a pencil-tip of deathless light,—

Poet of high untrodden snows,
Of ocean's indefatigable roll,
And of the everlasting human soul
Hush'd in immutable repose,
On whose white calm no gold or rose
Colours with change the pale immortal whole,—

If we miss sore in songs of thine
One Name (which missing, so much more is miss'd),
Breath more austere pure hath never kiss'd
Our fever'd brows than blows divine
Over thy lofty starlit line,—
All virgin pages somewhere whisper—Christ !
WILLIAM DERRY AND RAPHOE.

April, 1888.

AN APRIL LOVE.

NAY, be not June, nor yet December, dear,
But April always, as I find thee now :
A constant freshness unto me be thou,
And not the ripeness that must soon be sere.
Why should I be Time's dupe, and wish more near
The sobering harvest of thy very vow ?
I am content, so still across thy brow
Returning smile chase transitory tear.
Then scatter thy April heart in sunny showers ;
I want nor Summer drouth nor Winter's sleet :
As Spring be fickle, so thou be as sweet ;
With half-kept promise tantalise the hours ;
And let Love's frolic hands and woodland feet
Fill high the lap of Life with wilding flowers.

ALFRED AUSTIN.

IN MEMORIAM.

OH, to recall the days when, on the road
That led me, cheerful or depressed, towards home,
My little timid son was wont to come
Within my ken, not far from my abode !
On seeing me his eager joy he curbed,
Uncertain of my mood. He peeled his stick
With anxious mien, while casting glances quick
To learn my humour ; if I seemed disturbed
As I drew near, he loitered by my side :—
A thought behind—and looked intent on work ;
But if I smiled—then, with a sudden jerk,
His stick flew far, and such a whelming tide
Of love burst forth, in smiles and misty tears,
And pressure of his loving little hand, and eager confidence of
hopes and fears.

Oh, that we did not fail so oft to find
God's angels in our children ! How our eyes
Are holden, while we deem that we are wise ;
Whereas we are but very dull and blind !
For what are trifling faults—a noisy tone,
A broken platter, or a missing hat ?
Can we not foster love so passionate,
Yet gently chide ? Alas ! why be so prone
To silence lips so loving, or to make
The little heart e'en for a moment ache
Because our nerves are jarred ? How soon we lose
Perception of the treasure of its love !
Shock our fastidious sense, and we refuse
The love that fills the little heart with joy—the solace that
could half our griefs remove.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

MANY of our countrymen have doubtless heard of the Heavens having rained blood at certain places, as of showers of frogs and snakes. They are not such utter myths as Horatio is apt to think. The former phenomenon was lately observed in Ceylon—no longer the land of fable and the ten-headed Ravana, but a British Colony. There was at Galle a heavy downpour of rain which at places, from 15 to 20 minutes, seemed to be a red liquid. In fact, it seemed to rain diluted blood. We are glad that samples have been kept for analysis. We are curious to learn the result, and should specially like to hear the cause ascribed. It can hardly be blood, but then what is it? Above all, how—it got there?

THE powdered seeds of the Jam, Jamon, or Jambol (*Eugenia Jambulana* or *Syzygium Jambulana*) has been introduced into Europe as a remedy for *Diabetes melleus*. It is said to have been tested by the Faculty in England, Germany and the United States, with the best results. The *Lancet* however questions the virtues of the seed.

POST CARDS may be cheap and convenient, but there is danger in using them, being exposed to the gaze of the whole world. It is therefore satisfactory to learn that the Postmaster-General of England has under consideration a new kind of close postcards which will have the privacy of a letter and be sold at less than a penny. We hope the Director of the Department in India will now lose no time in ridding the Empire of the nuisance.

THE Bengal Act to amend the Bengal Municipal Act III of 1884, empowering the Local Government "at any time, by notification in the *Calcutta Gazette*, (to) exclude from the limits of any Municipality any lands or holdings in the occupation of Government for Military or Naval purposes," was assented to by His Excellency the Governor-General on the 27th June last. This probably accounts for the premature announcement in the *Englishman* that the new proposed Municipal law for Calcutta had received the final sanction of Lord Dufferin.

GLORY to Gotama! The wisdom of the Farther East is asserting itself. A Burman has beat all the Middle Templars. Mr. Chan Toon has just been called to the bar. He had competed for and won all the principal eight prizes open to law students, and has obtained the following unusual compliment—of a resolution of the Benchers of his Temple at a parliament:—

"The Masters of the Bench of the Middle Temple desire to offer their best congratulations to Mr. Chan-Toon on his most distinguished career as a student of the Inn, and, recognising the great honour Mr. Chan-Toon has by his success gained for the society, the Masters of the Bench express the sincere hope that his career throughout life may fulfil the promise of its commencement."

That is a success of which any nation might be proud.

THE following startling discovery is noticed by the Moffussil Notes man of the *Indian Planter's Gazette*:—

"Dr. Vincent Richards has our heartiest sympathies in having been forestalled in the discovery of an antidote to snake poisoning. A Mr. Patrick Cunningham of America has discovered an arrangement by means of which the result of a snake biting a man is sudden death to the snake. It consists of a lotion which, when swallowed, makes the swallower a poison barrel. When a snake's fangs strike him, an electric current is generated, which drives the virus in the reptile's body through every blood vessel in its system, causing almost instant death. Thus is the biter bit. Mr. P. Cunningham is, we believe, no relation to the luminary of the Calcutta High Court."

That should be eminently satisfactory, no doubt, but "something too much of it!" To our feeble mind, the man would be unenviably endowed—over protected. Converted by the Cunningham process into a living—or moribund or dead—electric barrel and battery, he might proudly confront all comers—good, bad and indifferent. Neither friend nor foe would be welcome. Who would care to approach a being so armed *cap-à-pied* at all points? Angels and monsters alike would be in danger from such a doctored being, let serpent alone. The horrid loneliness of such an invulnerable unit of humanity might be insupportable, and the bearer of the charmed life might finally throw up the burden in despair, but then the attempt itself would probably be defeated by civil war—an intercorporeal conflict.

The biter-bit may be a desirable result, it is certainly an orthodox

punishment. But the friend who attempts to shake hands would be repelled by this powerful human battery with a violence truly dangerous to limbs, if not life itself.

In the beginning of the century, such men might have been made man-traps of and fixed on game preserves, as intelligent substitutes for spring-guns. Even now, the Forest Department might try some of them in the wilder jungles infested with dangerous beasts and desperate robbers of forest produce.

Is our contemporary's allusion to Judge Cunningham meant for a compliment? It does not look like coming from the right hand.

RUKMABAI has at last compromised her case with her husband Dadaji. She pays Rs. 2,000 by way of costs and he agrees not to execute the decree obtained against her, ordering her to go to the husband and pay him his costs. The Appeal Court has allowed the compromise and confirmed the original decree. The appeal last came before the Chief Justice Sir Charles Sargent and Mr. Justice Bayley on the 6th July, when Mr. Jardine, on behalf of the wife appellant, thus addressed the Court:—

"In this case I think your lordships will be relieved from the necessity of a further consideration of the appeal. As your lordships know this was a suit for the restitution of conjugal rights, brought by the husband against the wife, who has from the commencement uniformly resisted all the attempts of the husband to induce her to live with him as his wife. So far as the courts are concerned, the law has been against her, and the decree has passed ordering her to return to him. When the appeal was before your lordships the other day, I said your lordships would affirm the decree of the lower court on the main question, the only question then to be dealt with being whether or not the order made by Mr. Justice Farran, that the costs were to be paid by the defendant, should be upheld. Since then proposals have been made to us—

Mr. Vicajee: By mutual friends.

Mr. Jardine (continuing)—And on behalf of Rukmabai I have seen my way to accept them. I would therefore ask your lordships to pass a consent decree in these terms. The defendant undertaking to pay Rs. 2,000 to plaintiff in satisfaction of all costs within a fortnight from to-day, the decree of the lower court be affirmed, the plaintiff undertaking not in any way to execute the decree, nor in future to assert any claim by suit or otherwise as a husband against defendant's person or her present or future estate. The appellant to have leave to withdraw the monies or Government paper lodged in the court as security for the execution of the decree of the court below and of the costs of the appeal."

Mr. Vicajee representing the husband assented:—

"For the respondent I assent to the terms my learned friend has proposed. But I may say that the proposal, though it was a wise one, did not emanate entirely from us, but it was brought about by the assistance of mutual friends. It must, however, be understood that if within a fortnight from to-day the money is not paid, the decree is to be executed in the ordinary manner. The question was originally raised in order that it might be decided whether a Hindoo husband is entitled to a restitution of conjugal rights. That point has been decided in the husband's favour, but since the defendant has apparently no affection for the plaintiff, I think he has acted well in determining not to press his claim further."

This is a kind of divorce by mutual consent. Rukmabai consents to be the wife but not to live as such with Dadaji. Is she entitled to any maintenance from him? By the last decree she may claim it, unless otherwise excluded.

THE Slavery question has raised its head again in America. We read—

"Judge Tulay, of Chicago, has decided that marriage between slaves could not be legally contracted, the parties being irresponsible chattels, and that all the offspring of such marriages must be held illegitimate. The point arose during the hearing of a will case, in which the descendants of married slaves claimed property. The decision seems to be in conflict with the Constitutional Amendment, which was intended to legalize slave marriages. An appeal will be taken, and the matter settled by the Supreme Court."

THEY have invented in America what is called the cyclone pulverizer. In this apparatus, it is said, gold quarts are reduced to the finest dust in remarkably short time.

"The principle is the bringing together of two whirling and opposing currents of air, the substance to be crushed being introduced into the vortex thus created. The particles are pulverized by constant and violent attrition against each other, and are then withdrawn in the shape of fine dust by an ordinary fan blower. The mechanism is very simple, the currents of air being produced by a pair of discs armed with blades similar to those of a screw propeller, and rapidly revolving in different directions. The pulverization is thus precisely similar to the havoc that would be caused by two cyclones meeting each other, and, indeed, the first idea of the invention was suggested by the action of this force in nature. Those engaged in gold mining will be interested to know that a cyclone pulverizer, weighing 5,000 lbs., can do the work of a battery of twenty head of stamps. Strength, simplicity of construction, cheapness, effectiveness, and economy of labour are thus all on the side of the new invention. Considerable expenditure

on gold mining plant is still being incurred in India, and it is well that this powerful pulverizer should be brought under the attention of engineers. Of course, it will be evident that the invention can be applied to a variety of other substances besides quartz, and altogether the discovery of the principle opens up some important possibilities in mechanical science."

THE Standing Committee of the National Congress have voted a message of condolence to Her Majesty, on the death of her Imperial son-in-law Frederick the Third of Germany.

THE Bengal Government has sanctioned an estimate of Rs. 1,38,688 by the Port Commissioners for additional accommodation at the petroleum wharf at Budge-Budge.

CAPTAIN A. Gwyn, I. M., Officiating Deputy Director of the Indian Marine, will act a Port Commissioner during the absence of Captain A. Campbell, I. M.

MARINERS are warned that the buoy marking Whale Reef, off Galle, has broken adrift, and the Oyster Shoal Buoy has disappeared. The last is a report from the Commander of the *Madras* as telegraphed by the Port Officer, Akyab.

COMMANDER Johnson, H. M. S. *Ranger*, has discovered shoal ground off Ras Kharzieh, western approach to Basiduh, Persian Gulf. It has depths of 9 to 13 feet over it and extends $4\frac{1}{4}$ cables south-eastward from Ras Kharzieh; its southern edge is very steep, the water shoaling rapidly from 12 and 10 fathoms to 13 feet.

SOME of the Personal Staff of Lord Lansdowne have been announced, namely,

Military Secretary—Lord William Beresford.

Aides-de-Camp—Major Rowan Hamilton; Captain Henry Streatfeild, Grenadier Guards; Captain the Hon. Charles Harbord, Scots Guards; and Lieutenant Pekenham.

THERE will be a Railway Conference at Simla in September. All the railways in India have been invited to send delegates to take part in the consideration of questions of traffic and working. The Director-General of Railways is expected to preside, Captain Wilson, R. E., acting the Secretary.

FOR the past half year, the Bank of Bengal has declared a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum; the Madras Bank 12; and the Allahabad Bank a dividend and bonus of 15 per cent.

MR. EDGAR has taken one month's leave, Mr. Macaulay acts the Chief and the Financial Secretary during the period. We are glad Mr. Edgar is better.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 7th July amounted to £3,922,600, out of £14,000,000 the Budget estimate for the twelve-month.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY starts on his tour on the 27th. He visits Midnapore, Bancoora, Raniganj, Deoghur, Dumka and Suri, and returns to the capital on or about the 12th August.

WE read:—

"Twelve anarchists called at the office of the *Intransigent* on 30th May, to demand the insertion of some notice or other, and when it was refused, threatened to burn down the house. Thereupon M. Rochefort drew a revolver and threatened to blow out the brains of the first man who approached. The twelve anarchists drew in return, and the 'shootin' was just about to begin, when the police arrived and prevented further mischief."

Journalism in the Territories of the American Union was scarcely encompassed by more serious difficulties than it is now in the French Republic.

IN the Benares defamation case against the station master Mahendranath Sircar by the Parcel Clerk Soshibhusan Chatterjee, the Joint-Magistrate Mr. Hope has found the station master guilty. He is of opinion that the words "this shows that the parcel clerk has some selfish interest in despatching fruits by night train" are defama-

tory, and has fined him Rs. 51, in default of payment one month's simple imprisonment. Mahendra of course paid down the fine.

A NEW pleasure has long been called for, but it has not been forthcoming these nearly two thousand years. Pain is not so shy. New diseases are continually cropping up. Here is one. In the last annual report of the Scottish Presbyterian Medical Mission at Moukden, in China, occurs the following:—

"A peculiar case of *spasm of the tongue* appeared recently among the out-patients. Patient stated that nine months previously, after a drink of cold water while heated he became stupid and delirious. This was followed by a feeling of fear and sleeplessness; and shortly afterwards the tongue was attacked. Now, other symptoms have passed off, but that organ is in a state of constant spasmodic motions which makes it almost impossible for the patient either to speak or eat. When the mouth is closed a peculiar sound is produced, and when open the tongue moves backwards and forwards with extraordinary rapidity, over which the patient has no control. Otherwise, he enjoys good health."

He must be a marvellous creature to do so under all his disadvantages! Why don't the missionaries learn from him the secret of good health without eating?

THEY have been running a passenger train experimentally between New York and Boston, with electric lights. Each car is illuminated by 18 sixteen-candle glow lamps.

THE Mysadul estate in Midnapore has been deprived of its head. Coomar Iswar Prasad Garga had been living with his family in Calcutta for some time. He had been ailing and died here Wednesday week. The family last Sunday removed to the family seat. The last of the three brothers Jyoti Prasad will now represent the family. Iswar Prasad was only 26 years of age.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

EMPEROR WILLIAM II. was to have embarked for St Petersburg at Kiel yesterday on board the Imperial Yacht in command of his brother Prince Henry—a name reminding one of the famous Portuguese "Navigator." His Majesty will be escorted to the Neva by five ironclads. Count Herbert Von Bismarck, not the Chancellor, accompanies. The Czar comes to Cronstadt to welcome the emperor. The emperors meet on board the Russian Yacht, thence proceed up the river to Peterhoff.

FORTY-TWO ironclads have been collected at Spithead and Portland for war manœuvres. The Bill concerning the constitution of the House of Lords has been withdrawn. At the instance of the Duke of Argyll, the House voted without division confidence in the Government as regards its Irish policy. In the House of Commons, a resolution, supported by Mr. Gladstone, to remunerate the members, was rejected by a majority of 57 votes. Mr. Parnell gave notice of a motion for a Select Committee to enquire into the *Times*' charges against himself. Mr. Smith at first referred him to the law courts, but, being better advised, now offers him a Commission of Judges. The House adjourns in the middle of next month and reassembles at the end of October.

In the French Chamber of Deputies, General Boulanger suddenly moved for its dissolution with bitter attacks on the politicians and the *régime*. The Premier made a passionate reply criticising the General's conduct. Boulanger was in rage. He called Floquet an impudent liar and left the House preparatory to his resignation of his seat in the Chamber as now constituted. The Premier, however, has not done with the General. He has challenged him to mortal combat. The fiery General hesitates.

King Milan of Servia has grown sick of her Queen Natalie. He is said to be suing for separation for incompatibility of temper. She is at Wiesbaden with her son Prince Alexander, whom she refuses to deliver to the King. A process is out against her.

Distressing news is telegraphed from Cape Town. Five hundred persons are said to have been burnt to death by a terrible fire occurring in the entrance shaft of a mine in Kimberley owned by one DeBeers.

THERE had been a check in March, but since then gold digging in the Transvaal has been making good progress, so that in the four months

from January to April, the Cape Colony has exported £2,41,391 worth of gold against £2,36,487 worth in the same period in 1887.

In British Columbia, there is a rage for the diggings. Sites supposed to be highly auriferous, as being in the lucky region, are fetching fabulous prices. One which lately cost 400 dollars is now 36,000 dollars.

MEANWHILE, a new gold field of extraordinary richness has been discovered in Guiana, South America. A French traveller, M. Condreau, after a careful inspection, has declared it equal to the famous Australian and Californian reefs. The site, which is situated between the Lava and Papanahoni rivers in Surinam, is likely to be a bone of contention between the Dutch and the French. The Dutch have long held Surinam, which is mentioned by the old voyagers, before the French visited that coast, but then, at this moment, France is suffering from a canine hunger for earth—one of the *sequale* of the drastic and antiphlogistic treatment to which she had to submit in 1870, and the effect specially of the amputation which Surgeon-General Bismarck performed on her, by which she was dismembered of Alsace and Lorraine. If she dare not think of recovering from Germany, she is any day strong enough to rob from Holland.

THE country has beat the city in the last Entrance Examination. The *Prajabandhu* attributes this to four causes, inimical to the education of the boys of Calcutta, namely, Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee's political agitation, Sasadhar Tarkachuramani's Hindu revival, the Brahmo Samaj, and the Bengali theatres. The *Panchayet*, coinciding generally, points out that theatres and the Brahma Samaj are not of recent growth. Nor, we may add, are they confined to the city, having spread to the country as well. Surendra is still a hero in the Mofussil, and Sasadhar commands there large audiences. But then, the country is only from time to time invaded by these locusts. The capital is under a permanent blight, from the evil presence. For one formal address to all classes in Oolooberia or Tarkessur, there are fifty lectures, formal and informal, public and private, confined to the unfortunate youth of Calcutta. The nation will some day awake to the deep injury—educational, moral, social, and political—which that one restless man, with the glib tongue and boundless energy, has inflicted on it. There is no doubt that these several propagandists have more or less completely spoiled a great many boys and distracted nearly all, diverting them from timely pursuits and burdening them with thoughts beyond their years. But there are special causes of the present examination results. These are probably to be found in the examinations themselves. The matter is so important that we invite the press to the discussion.

THE Boy of the Period has found his way to the quiet rural society of our Bengal hills. According to the *Panchayet*, Kumar Srinarain has sued his father Raja Ramnarain Singh of Khaira in the Bhagulpore District, for maintenance. He was educated at the Benares College. On his return home, he, having no occupation perhaps, naturally enough wanted a wife, and let the father know of it. The Raja was in no hurry. The returned Prodigal called for the thing instant. The article was not to be had in the market, and it was a grave question of race and pedigree, of expense and organisation, pomp and ceremony. That exasperated the son and he left his father's protection and has commenced to molest him. Friends of the family attempted to bring on a reconciliation but failed. Such is progress!

BABOO NUNDOLAL BOSE is one of the luckiest men in the land. He was leading an obscure life in penury when he awoke one morning and found himself one of the biggest landlords in the country. His luck continued. He is now above law—municipal. The very efforts of the Corporation to injure him redounded to his advantage. The municipality inflicted a sumptuary tax on the new palace he built, improving and beautifying a neglected slum of the Black Town, and the result was that he has been relieved of the rate altogether. He is enjoying his vast premises as a sort of municipal freehold. He gets all the benefits of the municipality at the expense of the rest of the city. And now the nightsoil service too is to be done to his premises free. Only recently, the Town Council recommended a scale of night soil fees for unassessed houses which was confirmed at a special meeting of the Commissioners, and the Corporation, instead of proceeding by distress warrant, sued the Baboo for the fee for service done to his house. The

case came on before Mr. Chatterjee in the Small Cause Court. He has dismissed the suit, for defect of certain formalities required by law. He made no order for costs. It is curious that with so many legal members on the Board, the legal formalities are not insisted on at meetings of the Commissioners.

It will be remembered that at the last assessment, in 1883, the assessment on Baboo Nundolal Bose's house was raised from Rs. 150 to Rs. 400. He appealed against the executive to their masters, but being dissatisfied with the decision of the Commissioners, he took the case up to the High Court, and the High Court quashed the proceedings as irregular and not according to law. The order of the High Court paralysed the Corporation. Since then, the Commissioners have not ventured to demand the rates from the Baboo. They were advised they had no power to reassess the premises till the next six yearly assessment, the previous assessment having ceased under the operation of law.

We admire Sir Henry Harrison for his respect for the law, but we are not sure that the law precludes the Commissioners from moving in the matter at all. The present Municipal Act IV of 1876 came into force on the 1st July 1876. At that day, the Bose brothers had not built their house. It was not till 1880, that any building was raised which, being a portion of the present residence, was assessed at Rs. 150 a month, and the house was only completed before the next revision of assessments in 1883. At that assessment, it was valued at Rs. 400, the proceedings whereof have been quashed by the High Court in appeal. The question now is, Can the house be valued again during the current period of assessment? The proceedings being quashed, both sides have been put in their former position, and the Corporation is free to proceed to valuation, if not prevented by any positive provision in the Act. The Act makes no distinct prohibition, although there is no express sanction. The house as it now stands is unassessed for the purposes of the Act, and the Commissioners can, under the Act, at any moment, fix a valuation.

A NATIVE gentleman has preferred a claim for damages through one of the Attorney Commissioners against the Calcutta Corporation for injury done to himself and his conveyance whilst driving on a road which gave way. The matter has been referred to the arbitration of three of the Commissioners, who, we understand, have recommended payment of Rs. 250 to the Baboo. The attorney's fees for attendance come up to about the same sum.

THE Assistant Government Agent of the Mannar District in Ceylon, is a benevolent officer who has the good of the people at heart. Mr. Boake sympathises with them under the oppression suffered by them from the tax imposed by his Government on their food grains. He has the courage of his convictions. He has written a monograph in which he takes Government sharply to task for its inhumanity. We wonder what the Governor thinks of this performance. It is impossible not to admire the self-sacrifice involved in such advocacy of the dumb peasantry. Would that this generosity were accompanied by sobriety of language! This is how he allows himself to speak of the objects of his philanthropic interest:—

"The Mannar man is somewhat retrograded from the civilization he had attained when our fathers were mere barbarians, and I am not sure that the Wanduras who have stuck to their tails have not done wisely. They have not to pay a tithe of their grain, nor to be worried about every transaction of their simple lives."

There is no accounting for tastes. Here is a man who abuses his own fathers in order to justify his contemptuous treatment of his own Eastern *protégés*!

At the French Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, among other canine friends of man, were exhibited a country postman's dog which had assisted in rescuing a drowning child, and a brave Newfoundland which only in December last saved its mistress from murder by springing at the throat of a burglar who having entered the house was taking aim at her. Such dogs are more valuable servants than our lazy *Durwans* and *bearers*. Indeed, as a rule, dogs are more faithful than men. What a pity that our people have not yet learnt to utilise the honesty and honor of one of the noblest species of God's creatures.

A NATIVE magazine was some time been started in Bombay under the name of the *Literary Album*. We received the first issue, but no others, and so concluded that it had been dropped. But no! still it moves and has its being, if the columns of our contemporaries are to be believed. Thus the *Daily Athenæum* (Hyderabad) publishes under 'Extracts' a characteristic article purporting to be taken from the *Literary Album*. It is a characteristic effusion, and the character of the publication is labelled by its name. That is no misnomer. The *Album* is indeed a good deal below the designation. Album or Keepsake literature is sublime before the feebleness of this Bombay business in letter-press—rather than literature. The article to which we refer, the only one which we have seen reproduced in any paper, is evidence. It purports to be brief but full biographical sketch of the Earl of Dufferin. All the research and literary power of the establishment have apparently been lavished on the composition. The conductors no doubt desire to be judged by it. The result is by no means disappointing but it is sufficiently poor and puerile. Here is an instance of how matters are put—

"His [Lord Dufferin's] appointment to the Governor Generalship of Canada opened a still wider field for the display of his high administrative faculties—faculties which only a few years ago averted a Russo-English complication on the frontier. On his return from Canada he was appointed....."

It is difficult to fix the chronology of the "few years ago" or the locality of the "frontier." Apparently, the proof of the high administrative faculties displayed in averting a Russo-English complication on the frontier opened to Lord Dufferin a wider field for their exercise by his appointment as Governor-General of Canada. But which complication was that and on which frontier? One can scarcely resist the suspicion creeping in that the writer refers to years long subsequent, in fact to Lord Dufferin's career as the Viceroy of India of the hour.

The following paragraph, though of a piece with the rest, is the least objectionable :—

"His Lordship has occasionally turned his mind to literary matters, and his *Letter (sic. in Daily Athenæum) from High Latitudes* written after a visit to Iceland and Spitzbergen, is a work well-known and appreciated. He is also a good shot and a keen sportsman. During his stay in India he has travelled about a good deal, and has gathered information from all sources relative to the state of the people and the condition of the country."

The writer attempts a more ambitious height in his criticism of the Viceroy's oratory :—

"Lord Dufferin is too well-known as a public speaker to need eulogy from our pen. He is known to be one of the best speakers in England, and as a descendant of the celebrated Richard Brinsley Sheridan it is but meet that His Lordship should have inherited his powerful eloquence."

And then finishes, not unexpectedly nor inappropriately, by a plunge into the pool of his own bathos, as follows :—

"In concluding the memoir of one whom future historians will mark down as one of the greatest rulers India ever had or will have, and under whose regime a vast area of new territory has been added to the Empire and many other beneficial reforms introduced, it would not be inappropriate for us to thank his Lordship publicly for his ardent zeal in the advancement of literature, and as a token of which His Lordship has been pleased to subscribe to a copy of our humble periodical,—

THE LITERARY ALBUM."

It is not difficult to imagine how Lord Dufferin will feel under this serious effusion of gratitude to him for his ardent zeal in the advancement of literature in subscribing for a copy of this wonderful magazine. Let it be his Lordship's consolation that he has saved his credit for taste by not going beyond the compliment of taking in a single copy. Men in his position—or their personal staffs—are not always no discriminate in their patronage, whether in letters or in generals.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Bilious affections, with all their concomitant annoyances induced by atmospheric changes, or too liberal diet, should be checked at once, or serious consequences may ensue. When any one finds his ideas less clear than usual, his eyesight dimmed, and his head dizzy, accompanied by a disinclination for all exertion, physical or mental, he may be quite sure that he is in immediate need of some alterative medicine. Let him at once send for a box of Holloway's Pills, a mild course of which will remove the symptoms, and speedily renew his usual healthful feeling. If the bowels be irritable, Holloway's Ointment should be diligently rubbed over the stomach and liver every night and morning.

MORE than thirty years ago, a European foreigner announced his intention of flying from the top of the Ochterlony column to Government House. He was a professional on tour throughout the globe and claimed to have accomplished such aerial flights in other lands. His language though vague suggested the idea of aerial locomotion by means of mechanical wings, but it was understood, or supposed, that he depended for success on, and would descend by, a powerful specially constructed parachute. But his profession proved to be that of "doing" the good people of the Dutch literally "in the eye." They collected in force on the scene, but he prudently kept away, preserving his neck and making money into the bargain. Since then, no venturesome wight has appeared in India even to make an empty boast of such a deed. Yet the theory of the feat is not difficult and suggests itself easily to minds of the slightest speculative turn. The idea indeed of descending from a height by means of an umbrella—to call a spade a spade—is an old one and it has been put to the test on a greater or less scale, with more or less success, by amateurs as well as professionals, in Europe and America. With the progress of the science and art of ballooning, it became a matter of course. At first, in the one as in the other, there were failures and accidents, but gradually the mechanism was perfected and the performers acquired skill and presence of mind and showed satisfactory results. In ballooning pure and simple, France has made the greatest and most steady organised exertions and maintains the precedence. But in the parachute part of the business, America has for sometime greatly distinguished herself and secured the palm. An American of the name of Baldwin is famous for proficiency in the line. He makes light of coming down from the tops of high steeples and the peaks of almost perpendicular hills with his stout umbrella. He has more than once gone up in a balloon to 5,000 feet above ground and then alighted easily with his parachute. His fame has now been eclipsed by another compatriot, Edward D. Honan, who has performed the same feat in the state of Michigan from the height of 10,000 feet. It was an astonishing feat, trying to the nerves of beholders.

IN consequence of the perfunctory way in which the High Court has lately decided the Jain case in the goods of Dhensook Das Seth, there is naturally considerable anxiety in Jain circles not only at the capital but at other centres of this commercial people. There have been several cases of late in the Courts here and elsewhere, and some are pending. About a year ago, in Moorsheadabad Hoolas Chand of Azimgunge's case was decided in the District according to the Jain Law and against the dicta of the *Mitakshara*. One Gopal Chand Sacla in Calcutta has, under the advice of Mitakshara practising lawyers, sued his father who has disowned him for a moiety of the estate of his grandfather. The father of course stands on his rights under the Jain Law. The great case of the Jagat Sett family of Moorsheadabad has just closed in the District Court, the Sub-Judge having taken time to deliver judgment. The Moorsheadabad Correspondents of the papers testify to the deep interest with which the decision is awaited.

THE following learned speculation, in an educational magazine, must be beyond common flesh and blood and sense :—

"Who would suppose that any tie existed between the name of the Isle of Wight and that of the kingdom or province of Oude? The two places have half the world between them; the two words have not a letter in common; yet they are linked together in a very singular way. The derivation unfolds a remarkable instance of the wanderings of races, and shows the distant affinity existing between the English and the people of the Indian peninsula, whom the former have subjected by their northern energy and strength. The word Oude appears to be derived from the Sanscrit *a-yodhya*, 'not to be warred against' (a, not; yudh, fight). The word Goth, by which we designate one of the most important members of the great Teutonic family, probably comes from the Saxon guth (pronounced yudh) signifying 'war battle, fight'; and this seems to have had its origin in the Sanscrit yudh, expressing, as we have just shown, the same idea. A kindred race to the Goths were the Jutes, otherwise called the Gytas, Ytas, Wights, Guiths, &c.—words which seem to imply 'ravenous warriors.' The Jutes settled in the delicate little island which now forms part of the country of Hants, and from them it derived its name. It was at first called Ytaland or Gytaland; afterwards Wiht-land; and subsequently Wight, or the Isle of Wight. In the laws of Edward the Confessor the men of the Isle of Wight are called Gut, *i. e.*, Jutes or Goths. We have also the intermediate forms Geat, Gwit, Wiht, and Wight. According to Dr. Taylor, *Jute* is analogous with the syllable *Joud*, occurring in the name Joudpore, in India, and with the word *Oude*. *Goth* appears

also to be from the same root as the sacred name, God; and it is not improbable that the primitive idea of God among the Goths was that of a warrior. The asserted affinity between the words Goth and Oude is supported by the fact that the Teutonic race originally migrated from the northern parts of India."

The next etymological flight defies reason and Grimm:—

"A similar relationship between an English and an Indian word has been asserted in connection with the name Himalaya, applied to the great range of mountains in the north of Hindoostan. The name is simply described as signifying 'the abode of snow,' but it seems to have been identified with the English word 'heaven.' Thus: Sanscrit (the ancient language of India and according to some authorities, the noblest and most perfect tongue in the world) himala; Mæso-Gothic, himins; Alemannic, himil; German, Swedish, and Danish, himmel; Old Norse himin; Dutch, hemel; Anglo-Saxon, heofon; English, heaven."—*Student's Friend*.

If himalaya and himin, and himil and heofon are the same word, we begin to have an idea that they are all connected with Yang-tse-kiang. But we are a tyro in the science of language. A greater Pandit might prove to satisfaction—of the professors of philology, mythology, and folk-lore—each in the Comparative degree—that the words in question are all derived from Nebuchadnezzar! Who, after that, can wonder at the contempt of positive science for such Diversions more contemptible than those of Purley?

JUST as we are going to press, we hear that Government has called for an explanation of the Registrar of Calcutta of his connection with the Jain case.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1888.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION—ITS DIFFICULTIES.

IN a previous issue, we had but time to indicate some of the practical difficulties which surround the question of a national system of technical education for this country. To be something more than the make-believe we have—a few scattered industrial schools here and there—it must be organised upon a wide basis, and incorporated with the University system. The Government of India has accepted this view. In the Note to which reference has been made, it is said:—

"If, therefore, our Industrial Schools are to lead to any practical good, they must be an integral part of the Provincial educational system. The District Industrial School must be a department of the District High School; all the prestige which attaches to the High School must attach to it, and so on with all other Industrial Schools in their various degrees. Further more, these Industrial Schools must be linked to a Central Institution, which should be the highest embodiment of Instruction in the particular art or industry with which the School is concerned. This Central Institution, be it the Presidency School of Art or the Engineering College, must not only direct and control the teachings of the Schools scattered throughout the province, but inspire them with new ideas and furnish them with new designs."

This view is based upon a recommendation of Mr. Tawney, then Officiating Director of Public Instruction in Bengal, in whose opinion, the failure of past efforts in the direction of technical education is due to the subordinate and isolated position given to it. Mr. Tawney's opinion on the subject is worthy of special attention. "The institutions," he says,

"were isolated and out of connexion with the general system of education in Bengal. They had no prestige of any kind attaching to them, and were therefore unable to make way against the general current of native prejudice. They were insufficiently supplied with funds, and no bright prospects were opened, even to the most successful of their pupils, resembling those lying before the more distinguished pupils of the School of Naval Architecture and the Economic School of Mines. If they had been furnished with Schools leading up to them, in which the head and eye were trained to do their work efficiently, and if they had been in any way connected with the system of education centralised in Calcutta, their fortunes might have been different. There can be no doubt that the horizon of Young India is widening; that a great many of the more energetic of our native youths are beginning to be dissatisfied with a purely literary education and an official career under Government, and are eager to take part in undertakings which shall advance the economic welfare of their native land. They naturally look to the Government to give a definite aim to their aspirations, and to furnish the machinery necessary for their realization."

In these few words is set forth the whole gist

of the question. Mr. Tawney appears to be the first Indian official to take a liberal view of what has to be done in regard to the effective promotion of technical education. In the first place, it must be incorporated with the system of general education, and possess the same prestige, and open the same prospects of respectable careers in life. Towards this end, there must be technical schools of various grades, having their basis in the primary school, and ending with the University College. Just as for the purposes of literary instruction, there are institutions of various degrees providing instruction from the most rudimentary to the highest stage of culture, technical education must cover an equally wide field. The provision of funds must, at any rate in the beginning, be on a thoroughly liberal scale. The Government has in this but to take a leaf out of the example set by Western nations. Let us for a moment see how in Europe and the United States they order things in this respect. A few examples will suffice for our purpose. In Switzerland, primary education is compulsory, and, as the pupils advance in age, their education becomes more and more practical. There are, first, the primary schools, from which they are removed to what are called "Improvement Schools," where they learn the practical application of the knowledge acquired in the primary schools, and then follow the Cantonal High Schools, which are divided into trade and classical Schools. Above these, there are five Universities, and the Zurich Technical Institute, which last is liberally supported by the Federal Government as well as the Canton. The Institute has a large staff of professors and teachers, and so numerous is its attendance of students that, notwithstanding the magnificent accommodation which it already possessed, a sum of £50,000 has recently been spent upon additional chemical laboratories. In France, every manufacturing town has its technical school. The Institute Industriel at Lisle and the Ecole Centrale of Lyons are examples of these, and it will be a sufficient indication of the liberality with which the Government supports these institutions to say that, with the view of attracting the best talent in the country to these colleges, 500 scholarships have been founded for these two institutions only, at an annual cost of £30,000. In Germany, the arrangements are made with a more unsparing hand, of which no more convincing proof could be given than the fact that the New University of Strasbourg alone costs £30,000 for its physical laboratory, and £35,000 for its chemical department. The twenty-four Universities in the German Empire, are all furnished with science departments and direct a complete system of technical schools subordinate to them. Nearly every large town in Germany has its "Real Schule," where the children perfect their elementary education so as to be qualified to enter commercial or industrial life. In the United States of America, each State is required to provide at least one Technical College and to defray its expenses by the grant of public lands. Under this system, the State of New York has received nearly a million acres of land. Private liberality has in all these countries supported the hands of the Governments, but in every case it was the State which first laid the foundations.

That we did not exaggerate the financial difficulty of the problem in its application to this country, will now be obvious. The Government of India, however, is so crippled for want of funds that it can hardly be in a position to advance the cause of technical education in the only way in which it can be advanced, namely,

by munificent endowment. A liberal expenditure of money is the more necessary in this country, as the whole work here will be one of initiation. Centres of manufacturing industry furnish the best places for affording practical instruction. Such places in India are owned by foreigners, and how far these, with their jealousy of natives encroaching upon their occupation, will lend themselves to the undertaking, has to be seen. Then, there is almost a complete dearth of men to teach the practical applications of science, and as to professors of the higher sciences, the difficulty is still more formidable and to be overcome only at prohibitive cost.

Fortunately, the original obstacle to the successful establishment of a system of technical education, arising from the caste prejudices of the people, is almost gone. "Although among the higher caste natives of India the obligations of caste still give a *quasi*-religious sanction to the distinction between the employments deemed menial, and those deemed honorable, there are, nevertheless, indications that this sanction is losing something of its force, and that natives of all castes are in increasing numbers looking to technical Education as affording an honorable livelihood and career in life." In this official view of the popular feeling on the subject, we agree, but, at the same time, the prospects of employment to those who put themselves under a course of practical instruction, must be sufficiently tempting, in order to induce them in large numbers to seek it. This part of the question has difficulties of its own of almost an insuperable kind, and no one who knows how all the industries in this country dependent upon some knowledge of scientific principles are now entirely in the hands of Europeans, will be sanguine of success in remedying these difficulties. To provide suitable careers to the ex-students of our technical schools, something will have to be taken away which is now exclusively enjoyed by Europeans in this country, and in this is involved a collision of interests analogous to what obtains in the administration of the Public Service. Apart, therefore, from the inherent elements of difficulty in the general question of making adequate provision for practical education, there are additional difficulties in this country arising from its political condition, that is, chiefly from the prevailing conflict of interests among its various races and nationalities, and, above all, the permanent economical struggle for existence between native and European.

THE CALCUTTA COLLECTORATE.

UNDER the head of "Bengal," the *Advocate of India* records the protest of a European contemporary of this city against the appointment of Baboo Doorga-gutty Banerjee to the office of Collector of Calcutta. Says the *Advocate*:—

"Our contemporary thinks this will give rise to a strong feeling of dissatisfaction, as it has always been understood that the office is essentially a European one, and 'almost requires the guarantee of a European name!' Why?"

Why, indeed! Is it because of the ill-odour attaching to European names as contrasted with the pure perfume of native ones? The less said about European pretensions the better for Europeans themselves. By this time, with the scandals confronting us, the days of tall talk should have ended—for the time at any rate. Just now European officering seems to secure neither efficiency nor integrity in administration. The Calcutta Collectorate was the worst possible department that could be selected for asserting the inherent virtues of a Christian skin. There the guarantee may be the other way. It is remarkable

that the European officers in it have always been good for nothing, without possessing the negative virtue of being above suspicion. On the other hand, the native Collectors have always discharged their office with marked ability and integrity. The pretence that the appointment is one specially reserved for Europeans, is ridiculous in the extreme. No such subordinate employment can be so reserved. If anything, it is reserved for natives, falling as it does within the category of those, which, under the Secretary of State's ruling, are to be set apart for the people of this country. If any class has a preferential claim to it, it is the native servants of Government. In point of fact, it was in our time first and longest held—for a long series of years, and with thorough usefulness and honour—by the late Babu Koylash Chunder Dutt, the accomplished father of the accomplished Collector to the Corporation (Mr. O. C. Dutt.) He was succeeded by a European, an amiable superannuated old man, whose administration was a scandal. After his and his native Assistant's retirement, came the present *régime*, which has continued the intermediate traditions. For six months, however, Baboo Rajendra Nath Mitter acted in the office, with his accustomed devotion to the state and satisfaction to the public and without a stain on his fair fame. There is, therefore, no real break of continuity in the appointment of a native again. Sir Steuart Bayley has simply given the natives what was their own. Mr. Goodricke's appointment was a mere accident and a scandal. He had no claim to it—he was not even fit for it. Neither Nature nor education meant him for the Collectorate of a great capital. How he got there was a wonder to all the world except those who knew. The advocates of the European cause are not doing it good by challenging scrutiny and reviving buried memories. The origin of that appointment is not of a kind to redound to the honor of the great Covenanted Civil Service which is responsible for the government of this Empire. Such a shameful and unblushing abuse of patronage can form no precedent. The Lieutenant-Governor deserves the thanks of the country for breaking the fictitious spell.

And commendation too for the particular appointment he has now made. His exercise of patronage is judicious. He has chosen just the man for it. He knew the merits of his man, who had served the crown loyally and with conspicuous ability under his eye, for many years, as his own official Personal Assistant, while he himself was Commissioner of an important Province of this administration. Yet this very knowledge and this personal relation so well-known to the world, might have been in the way of Sir Steuart Bayley's doing the doubly proper thing—advancing the efficiency of his administration by employing at the head of a demoralised department the only man within his knowledge who could sweep the Augean stable and rewarding well-merited merit. But he has proved himself a strong man by not succumbing under a maudlin delicacy, nor allowing himself to be terrified out of his clear perception of duty by the bugbear of a possible clamour. He must have been gratified in observing that, with the exception of one influential journal in the European interest, all the organs of opinion, European and native, have supported his choice. Even the objecting journal, in its pure and undisturbed first thought, fully recognised the individual fitness of the nominee. Indeed, an appointment which is warmly approved by both the *Mirror* and *Reis and Rayyet*,

carries the presumption of popular consensus in its favor

A feeble attempt is being made to stir up jealousy among the native members of the Executive Service to which the Baboo in question belongs. But we hope they are no woodcocks to be caught by such "springes." The charge of supersession is irrelevant. The rule of *seniores priores* is by no means absolute. It is daily broken through in the higher interest of state efficiency. Some of the officers said to have been passed over, do not care for the worry of the Calcutta Inland Revenue; one wants health, another inclination. Others have been too long mere criminal magistrates. As for qualifications, one may be more learned and another the more accomplished penman, but not one has such a record of executive success in his favour as the Collector elect. Be that as it may, certainly none is so favorably known to the head of the Government. And that is conclusive of the question. "The Lieutenant-Governor, as a human ruler, can only act according to his lights—his own knowledge of men and instinct for character.

We regret we cannot speak so favourably of the other arrangements simultaneously made in the same department. Mr. Kilby cannot possibly do justice to the Income Tax. He was already Superintendent of the Customs Preventive Service, and he has been charged in addition with the collection of this difficult Tax. He simply cannot afford the time for the two duties. This sort of vicarious performance of functions leads to loss to the State and harrassment of the public. Surely, the Income Tax can pay for its realization. The collections of a great city cannot be made properly except by a special machinery.

MR. GOODRICKE moved heaven and earth to have his furlough sanctioned, compromising, in the attempt to set up a case of serious illness, the honor of the Faculty. But now he seems in no hurry to make over charge. To repeated enquiries of the Divisional Commissioner, he has not fixed his last day in the Collectorate. Poor man, he may well hesitate to leave the office with all its imperfections on its head. His accommodating Assistants may still need his presence.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

XXII.

AKBAR.

Taking the whole period of Akbar's life, as regards what his own religion was, we conclude that he was a pure deist. He appears to have been naturally devout, with a tinge of superstition pervading his character, despite all his avowed scepticism, and public declaration that only that religion was to be individually sanctioned which had the approval of reason. His fundamental doctrine was that there were no prophets. His appeal therefore, on all occasions, was addressed to human reason: he based his right to interfere at all with religion, on the ground of a Civil Magistrate.

When Akbar lost his faith in Mahomet and the Koran, he made a confession of the new faith he had acquired, and which put concisely was, "that there is no God but God, and that Akbar was his Caliph." One would have thought, judging from historical precedents, that the emperor would have had a host of disciples, who in a courtier spirit would have followed the lead of so august a personage. But in fact, it was just the reverse; for he made but few converts, except among his courtiers and some learned men. The reason for such failure is said to be his relying solely on the powers of persuasion in propagating his opinion. This, however, is not a satisfactory statement, because the powers of persuasion, when an absolute monarch is the person who stoops to use it, are very great, wellnigh irresistible. The truth is Akbar was not fitted for the position of a religious leader. To be a religious leader, needs a man of versatile gifts, one who

can persuade as well as one who can command, a man who is golden-tongued but withal as firm as adamant in purpose and resolution. Akbar was too philosophical.

We have, however, instances of Akbar interfering in religious matters, but not to serve his own doctrines. The matters religious which he meddled with, enforcing his decisions with a firm hand, will doubtless be considered by most persons as a justifiable procedure, as occasions when the interference of secular authority was right and judicious; and it is remarkable that such interference created no disturbances, nor did it lose him the good will of the Hindus. When similar questions are discussed to-day, and restriction or removal of certain social customs, through legislation, is only hinted at, what a turmoil it seems to create among the Hindus, and yet it goes without question that these men of to-day are certainly much more enlightened than the Hindus of Akbar's day. Why is this so? It would puzzle Mephistopheles to answer, I am sure. Akbar forbade trials by ordeal, marriage before the age of puberty, while he permitted Hindu widows to marry a second time; he most positively prohibited "Suttee" except with the free will of the widows; and his precautions were effectual to ascertain that the women were uninfluenced. It is given as an illustration, that the Rajah of Jodhpore was about to force his son's widow to ascend the pile, and that the knowledge of this fact was conveyed to the emperor, who instantly mounted his horse and rode post to the spot, his presence taking the Rajah by surprise and preventing the intended sacrifice.

Akbar's revenue system has been justly extolled for the benefits it conferred on the country. The system may be classified under three heads. 1. He obtained a correct measurement of the land. 2. He ascertained the amount of the produce of each biggah of land, and fixed the proportion each ought to pay to Government. 3. He settled an equivalent in money for this portion.

For the first purpose, a uniform standard was established, the instruments of mensuration improved, and a complete survey made of the arable lands in the whole empire. For the second, the land was divided into three classes according to its fertility; the amount of each sort of produce that a biggah of each class would yield was accurately ascertained; the average of the three was assumed as the produce of that biggah, one third of which formed the Government demand—such was the assessment. This was the maximum, and every cultivator had a right of appeal if he thought it too high, and could insist on a readjustment of the division of the crop, by actual measurement. As lands of equal fertility might be differently circumstanced in other respects, there was a modifying clause added to the above. Land which never required a fallow, paid the full one-third every harvest. Land which had to be left fallow only paid when cultivated. Land which had suffered from inundation, or had been three years out of cultivation, and needed an expenditure of money and time to reclaim it, paid only two-fifths the first year, which proportion was increased every year till the fifth year, when it paid the full demand. Land that had been out of cultivation for a longer period than five years, enjoyed still more favourable terms. For the third purpose, statement of prices current of the products of the soil, for nineteen years previous to the settlement, was obtained from every town and village, the average of the prices was fixed as what the cultivator had to pay in money, in lieu of grain, as the Government's portion. Every husbandman was allowed to pay in kind, if he thought the money rate was fixed too high. At first, these settlements were made annually, but this plan being found unworkable, they were fixed for ten years. These measurements and classifications of land were all carefully recorded; the distribution of land, and increase or diminution of revenue, were all yearly entered in the village registers.

XXIII.

Akbar's instructions to his revenue officers, shows his anxiety for the liberal administration of his system, and for the ease and comfort of his subjects. There was no farming, of any branch of the revenue, in his system. His collectors were enjoined, in their agreements and other matters relating to their duty, to deal directly with the people, and not to depend implicitly on the headman or accountant of the village. Where Akbar could have obtained the infor-

mation, which gave him such correct views of the chicanery of these functionaries, seems surprising, so well does he put his hand on the sore of nearly all Eastern agricultural systems.

Akbar divided his empire into fifteen provinces or Subahs—Allahabad, Agra, Oudh, Ajmir, Guzerat, Behar, Bengal, Delhi, Cabul, Lahore, Multan, Malwa, Berar, Khandeish, Ahmednagar. The chief officer in each Subah, was the viceroy (*Sipah Salar*), who held both civil and military control, subject only to the emperor. Under him was a revenue officer, called later a *deewan*, who was appointed by the emperor. Then there were the military commanders of districts, or *faujdar*s, whose authority extended over the local soldiery or militia, and over all military establishments and lands assigned for military purposes, as well as over the regular troops within their jurisdiction; and whose duty it likewise was to quell all disorders arising within the same limits. Each Subah was divided into a certain number of Sircars, and each Sircar into Purgunnahs or Mehals. An aggregation of Purgunnahs was called a *duster*, or district.

Justice was administered by a court, the presiding officer of which was a *Mir-i-adl*, or lord of justice, assisted by a *Casi*. The *Casi* conducted the trial and stated the law, the other passed judgment. In large towns, the police was under a Kotwal; in small towns, the collector or revenue officer had charge of it; crime was kept in check in villages, by their own internal arrangements.

The reforms in civil administration were laboriously effected, but they were peacefully introduced when compared to the long and arduous struggle that Akbar had with his army, before he could get that body to submit to the needed reforms. It had been the custom to grant lands also assignments on the revenue, in payment of military service, and the holders of these orders were left to realise them without any check; while the musters of the troops were irregular and deceptive, servants and camp followers used to be mounted for the day on borrowed horses. Akbar by paying his soldiers in cash from the treasury, stopped the first of these abuses; the other was rendered impossible by having compulsory musters before pay, and by a descriptive roll of each man in the imperial service, and by branding every horse with the Government mark. All commissariat supplies, necessary for the movements of the troops, such as camels, oxen, carts and so forth, were all mustered and paid for at fixed rates. The commanders in the army were divided into classes, from commanders of 10,000 to commanders of 10. None but the King's sons held a rank above the command of 5,000. Those enumerated as commanders of 5,000 comprised only thirty persons, including princes of the blood, and the Rajput Rajahs.

The organization of the troops was in this wise—each *Mansabdar* or commander was obliged to keep half as many footmen as horsemen, and a fourth of the foot soldiers were required to be matchlock men, the rest might be archers. Besides these troops, there was a large body of horsemen, who were ranked on a different scale, as they were considered superior troops. These troops took services individually, and their pay was much higher than that of the ordinary horsemen, and ranged from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per month. It is supposed that Akbar could command the services of 200,000 effective cavalry, a fourth of which body were really dashing and gallant soldiers, as they were more a sort of gentleman soldiers than ordinary troopers. The militia of the provinces, which could be called out for active service on an emergency, numbered, it is stated, 4,400,000 men.

Besides the fort at Attock, many other military works were erected during this period. Agra and Allahabad were encircled with walls and citadels, comprising lofty turrets and towers of out stone, ornamented with turrets, domes and battlements, the whole encircled with deep ditches. The gateways need to be mentioned, as they were stately edifices, befitting the entrance to a royal palace.

Fatehpore Sikri was Akbar's favourite residence, and was built and fortified by him. Bishop Heber has described it in suitable terms—its commanding situation on a hill, the noble flight of steps by which one ascends to the portal tower, the extremely rich carving which ornaments the palace, its great extent; all these are treated most fully. But the Bishop is most graphic in his description of the majestic proportions and beautiful architecture of the quadrangle

and cloisters, and of the no less beautiful mosque which formed a part of it. Bishop Heber has also written about Agra as it must have been in pre-British times, through a description of what it was in his own day. Some of the buildings at Agra are thus described by the good Bishop. "A beautiful mosque of white marble, carved with exquisite simplicity and elegance; and the palace, built mostly of the same material, and containing some noble rooms. The great hall is a splendid edifice, supported by pillars and arches of white marble, more nobly simple than that of Delhi. The ornament, carving and mosaic of the smaller apartments are equal or superior to anything which is described as found in the Alhambra." The tomb of Humayun at Delhi should be mentioned, because it shows filial affection and because it may be reckoned among the principal of Akbar's architectural works. It is raised above the surrounding country, on a terrace, and is a great and solid edifice, surmounted by a vast dome of white marble.

The last days of this great and good man and king, still show the usual bent of his mind. There was no warping or clouding of those generous faculties of soul which were so prominently manifested through his whole life; though he appears to have been ailing for some time previous to the attack which proved fatal. It has been said, and probably with much truth, that this illness was owing to the strength of his attachments, and he was so unfortunate as to lose by death, one after another, several much loved and valued friends, and lastly his son Danyal, for whom his sorrow was deep and bitter, for his death was a very sad one. Danyal was cut off in the prime of manhood through his gross love of wine. Some time previous to his death, Prince Danyal became dangerously ill, from excess, and on his recovery was made to pledge his word to his father, to give up the use of wine. To enable him to keep his promise, Akbar wisely and tenderly took care to surround him with faithful friends, when he happened to be at a distance from him. The unfortunate young man being unable openly to gratify his propensity, which had become irresistible, had recourse to stratagem, and had liquor secretly conveyed to him in the barrel of a fowling-piece, and soon drunk himself to death.

The last ten days previous to his death, Akbar was unable to take any part in business, being confined to his bed. During this period he held farewell interviews with his principal nobles and took leave affectionately of the members of his family. His son Selim thus describes the closing scene of this eventful life. He says that Akbar desired him to bring all his Omrahs into the chamber where he was lying, "For," said he, "I cannot bear that any misunderstanding should subsist between you and those who have for so many years shared in my toils and been the companions of my glory." When the nobles were assembled, the dying monarch collected his remaining strength, and suitably addressed his faithful friends; then after wistfully regarding them all round, he asked each one to forgive him any offence of which he might have been guilty towards them. His son Selim was deeply affected and conscience stricken; he threw himself at his father's feet and burst into a passion of tears. Akbar seemed much moved and endeavoured to speak, but he was completely exhausted; he then raised his hand and pointed to his favourite scimitar, and by signs conveyed his desire to his son to bind it on in his presence. Akbar recovered from his exhaustion, and was able to have another interview with his son, during which he conjured him to look to the comfort of the ladies of his family, and not to forget or forsake his father's old friends or dependents. He then received the visit of one of the Chief Mullahs, and in his presence repeated his Moslem confession of faith, and died in all the forms of a good Mussulman.

Akbar was buried near Agra. His tomb is thus described by Bishop Heber: "The central building is a sort of solid pyramid, surrounded externally with cloisters, galleries and domes, diminishing gradually on ascending it, till it ends in a square platform of white marble, surrounded by the most elaborate lattice work of the same material, in the centre of which is a small altar tomb, also of white marble, carved with a delicacy and beauty which do full justice to the material, and to the graceful forms of the Arabic characters which form its chief ornament."

JAMES H. LINTON.

MONGHYR.

Jamalpoore, July 10.

The cry of water in this part of the Province is now over. We have had incessant rains for the last three or four days and the weather is cool enough for the people to enjoy at ease. This heavy downpour has also done material good for sowing of the local crops ---*Bhoota* or *Muccai*---the staple good of the Beharees.

The roads in the native quarter of the town, especially in Naya-goan, are sadly in want of repairs. In fact they become impassable during the rains. Mr. Editor you can well imagine the inconvenience the people are subjected to, especially in dark nights. What is the Municipality about? May not the rate payers expect an inch of *Kunkur* or brick dust for the roads in question?

I hear that the Sub-Judge of Monghyr is not pulling well with the Pleaders of the Monghyr bar. *Ipsa facto*, it looks very bad for both sides, being people of the same country. Complaints of this kind are not uncommon as will be seen on a reference to newspapers, and the sooner this state of things is put right the better.

The heavy showers of rain have driven out the venomous reptiles from their holes, and they take refuge in our dwelling houses and glide about the compounds to the great danger of folks going about without lights. Some cases of snake bites have come to my notice.

There has been a rise in the price of food grains here, especially the staple food rice.

The climate of the place is now pretty fair.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,---The question that strikes most is whether Dr. P. K. Ray is fit for the Presidency College. The College wants a full man. But the Dr. has no hind-toes, and therefore not a full man, and is not fit for his present post. Last year a single stroke of the pen set

him a-reeling with such convulsions that he could hardly stand on his fore-legs. Some one threw at him a shaft of dishonesty in the dark; and his agitations were violent although it did not strike him. We fear something might be found out from this, if we are to believe in the story about the learned Kalidass of stolen ring notoriety detected by his agitations on seeing Bararuchi, while anointing his forehead with earth after bathing. The facts speak for themselves, and the wise reader is to apply the rules of probability for himself, taking care to notice that the members of the Brahmo Samaj, whether they have cut-tail or cock's-head, are hedged by Divinity, and your sharp logical shafts are but blunt against them. Brahmo dishonest! suspicious, reasonless. But be that as it may, Dr. Ray could hardly control himself, and at last has revenged himself by plucking 48 P. C. of the candidates for the last B. A. in Philosophy. A secret whisper of his in the long ears of the examiners has produced this unprecedented havoc in the A. course. But this is not all; his infernal rage is not to be so easily appeased; he has succeeded in procuring the best set of examiners in philosophy for the next year, himself becoming a checking examiner (so much the better for merciless slaughter). He has meek outside but sulphurous fire within, we hope he would change it for Heavenly Fire. In addition to his own work, he has to keep the seal of the University; and his time is so short, that he cannot perform either of his work with neatness. It is better his pupils were not his; for he has hardly time enough to take sufficient care for them; and no time to dictate useful notes to assist their memory and understanding. He has assumed that his pupils are wise enough and need no help (in the form of notes) from their professor, wiser even than the students of other Colleges who need copious notes. But why is he not wise enough to think that if they really were such they would not attend his lectures? Any other man would be better for the place. The better the sooner he is removed. Yours &c.

A CRITIC.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned lots of surplus land, the property of the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta, will be put up for sale by public auction, if not previously disposed of, on Monday, the 13th August 1888, at 1 P. M., at the Municipal Office.

Lot No.	Nature of land.	Area more or less.	K.	Ch.	S. ft.
1	Vacant land and pucca go-downs at No. 48 Jaun Bazar Street north of Tal-tola Square ...	...	5	8	0
2	Land at do. east of Tal-tola Square ...	...	3	2	0
3	Ditto ditto ...	...	2	6	0
4	Ditto ditto ...	...	3	0	0
5	Do. portion of No. 33 Rutton Sircar's Garden St.	4	11	0	
6	Do. with buildings being portions of Nos. 15 and 16 Sickdarpara Lane ...	2	1	20	
7	Do. and tiled huts being remaining portion of No. 4 Sovabazar Street ...	4	14	0	
8	Do. with lower roomed house at No. 7 Godai Khanshama's Lane ...	0	13	0	
9	Land east of Blacquire's Tank Square... ..	0	10	26	
10	Filled up drain on the east and south of No. 11 Marquis Street ...	0	11	16	

CONDITIONS OF SALE:---

1. The Commissioners' limit will be kept in a closed cover, and the highest bidder above this limit is to be the purchaser; if any dispute arise as to the last or highest bidding for the lot, the same shall be put up again and resold.

2. A deposit of 25 per cent on the amount of the purchase-money is to be made by the purchaser immediately upon the lot being knocked down, and, in default thereof, the premises to be immediately put up and resold at the risk of the first purchaser.

3. The title to the property will be a conveyance from the Commissioners.

4. The residue of the purchase-money shall be paid within 15 days of the date of sale; and in case of default in payment of such residue, the purchaser shall forfeit his deposit, which shall be received and taken as and by way of liquidated damages. The sale to such purchaser shall be wholly at an end, and the Commissioners shall be at liberty to resell the same without any reference to such first purchaser but at his risk.

5. The Commissioners will, if required, furnish a deed of conveyance, such conveyance being prepared by the solicitors of the Corporation at the expense of the purchaser, who will likewise have to bear the cost of the stamp duty and registration, and of any attested copies of deeds or covenants to produce those that may be required.

6. The Commissioners will enter into no other covenant than that they have done no act to encumber.

7. The plan of the several lots may be inspected at the Municipal Office from the undersigned.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

6th July 1888.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

The following subscriptions have been received:---

	Rs.
Amount already advertised...	59,947
Rajah Baidya Nath Pundit, of Killa Darpan, Cuttack ...	50
Prince Wahid Ali Mirza ...	50
Sayed Ashrafuddin Ahmed, Secy. to the National Mahommedan Association, Hooghly ...	10
Total	60,057

Further subscriptions are invited, and will be duly acknowledged in the papers.

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S. E. J. CLARKE,

Honorary Secretaries.

Calcutta, 30th June, 1888.

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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
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(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So now is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets a Catholic and Protestant missionaries on ship-board, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY.

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1888.

No. 333

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

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At the sun's kiss, Nature's eyes
Open with a glad surprise !

And the heart of life thus stirred,
Throbs again in flower and bird,
Glow upon the young man's face,
Fills the maiden's form with grace.

Wood and meadow, sky and sea,
Catch the impulse, feel the glee ;
And the lark upon its wing
Bears the music of the Spring !

Though in London streets to-day,
Yet with restless joy I stray
Where the primrose, tender-eyed,
Smiles upon the copse's side ;

Where the river, mountain-fed,
Rushes through its rocky bed ;
Where the stream, by willows bound,
Murmurs with a silvery sound.

April's breath upon my face,
Many a woodland path I trace ;
Many a heath'ry track explore,
Pass by many a cottage door,

Watch the swallow darting by,
Hear the far-off cuckoo's cry—
Till my heart with them takes flight,
Filled with measureless delight !

Straight the happy dream has fled,
Houses tower overhead,
Newsboys shout, and cabmen ply,
London smoke obscures the sky.

Yet with sunshine in the heart,
From the eager crowd I part,
And a sense of sweet content
With the vision's loss is blent.

Richer far am I than they
Whom I pass upon the way ;
Richer far,—for I have been
In the fields where poets glean !

And although my song be weak,
Yet of Nature I can speak,
And a lover's tribute bring
To the treasures of the Spring !

JOHN DENNIS.

SONNETS.

DRY.

COME, April, come with gift of smile and tears,
Not with thine eyes unable thus to weep,—
Hast thou no store of sorrow from the deep
To loose and laugh through, as in former years ?
Come, let Lodore make music for our ears,
And rouse Helvellyn from his winter sleep,
Hang rainbow glories from the sunny steep,
And shroud at night with dew the glittering spheres.

For now the mountain faces, faint and pale
For lack of thy revivifying hand,
Swoon on beyond their time, expressionless.
And now the flocks are milkless in the dale,
The cuckoo calls not, and the larches stand
Without a heart to don their jewelled dress.

WET.

CAME April, and beneath her feet the cloud.
Broke into song upon our silent hills ;
Primroses wakened, thirsty daffodils
Tossed up their golden cups, a merry crowd :
Then visibly beneath his cold grey shroud
Helvellyn moved to hear the cuckoo-thrills
Make echo down the valley ; danced the rills,
The Greta sounded glad, Lodore was loud.

For joy the lambs leapt whitely thro' the grass,
With jewels of the sloe the hedge was pearled ;
And golden shone the coltsfoot in the lane ;
No foot, no heart, but did the merrier pass,
For April's tears had wrought another world
Wherein was life and laughter after pain.

H. D. R.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—As winter advances and the weather becomes more and more inclement and trying the earliest evidences of ill-health must be immediately checked and removed, or a slight illness may result in a serious malady. Relaxed and sore throat, quinsey, influenza, chronic cough, bronchitis, and most other pulmonary affections will be relieved by rubbing this cooling Ointment into the skin as nearly as practicable to the seat of mischief. This treatment, simple yet effective, is admirably adapted for the removal of these diseases during infancy and youth. Old asthmatic invalids will derive marvellous relief from the use of Holloway's remedies, which have wonderfully relieved many such sufferers, and re-established health after every other means had signally failed.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WE have never palliated the excesses of our own countrymen. But it is simply fair that Englishmen who are indignant with the violence of the Native Press, should know the provocations of our people, on every occasion and no occasion. Does the reader want to know what is a provocation on no occasion? Here is one. This is how the Lieutenant-Governor's return to town is announced in the ultra-Britisher press of Bengal :—

"Return. Sir Steuart Bayley, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, accompanied by Capt. Rawlinson, Private Secretary, returned to Calcutta from Darjeeling last Saturday. Sir Steuart's short stay in the Hills may be taken as a hint by future occupiers of Belvedere. In all he does, he is conscientious, upright, and manly, with rather too strong a leaning towards Bengalees, who, as the slaves of a people we have conquered, have no sort of claim, upon being restored to freedom, to oust Europeans, or Eurasians, from the sympathy of Government; while their rights—as they call their privileges—exist merely in their pampered fancies. They never possessed any but those of slaves."

There! That is prose run mad to be sure. That is the way to convey ordinary news and to point a compliment. Seriously, it speaks not a little for the meek law-abiding of the people that this Malay of journalism is permitted to insult them. In almost any other country, the man would have found his occupation gone—suppressed. In this very country, in the last century, the "slaves" would have made short work of such foreigners. The writer is too ignorant, or he would have known the shoe-beating which sent Job Charnock crying to the swamps of the Salt Water Lake.

MR. RHYS DAVIDS, Head Assistant to the Chief Commissioner of Stamps, N. W. P., shot himself dead on the 7th at his residence in Allahabad. It was one of the common cases of sordid suicide. He was in pecuniary difficulties, we are told, and unable to meet his obligations. He is to be pitied, if it was only that—pitied specially that he could not stand it, for the services of his poor wife and children and the world at large. But it is possible that the case is not so simple. Mr. Davids may have had a more peremptory incentive to "bolt" out of earth by the backdoor than the fear of a summons at the instance of Peerumal or Brown or Jones in any Court, Small or great. The Chief Commissioner of Stamps had better look into his office. The local Government might too with advantage keep its eyes and ears open. Mr. Davids was a gentleman of respectable connections. He was the brother of the eminent Pali scholar, late of the Ceylon Civil Service, now a Professor in England.

DR. LIDDERDALE, the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, has recorded the following opinion against the Serampore Municipality :—

"The Commissioners' works are quite insignificant, and not at all commensurate with the wants of the town. The insanitary conditions noticed on the last occasion still exist, to the detriment of the health of the whole community. In fact, this town is one in which Municipal government may be said to effect little or no good. The Chairman is a non-resident gentleman who only apparently attends meetings, so that the head of the administration takes no effective part in it. The mistake which the Commissioners and the rate-payers have made in this respect should be early rectified. The Chairman should be a local resident of good standing who has time to devote to the affairs of the Municipality. In no way has the place advanced since my last visit. The Commissioners hoard their money, and do not even incur the necessary expenditure on public latrines, and seem to take no active interest in public concerns. No one seems to look after the conservancy or other establishment, who neglect their work in the most barefaced manner. The town is overgrown with jungle which the owners of land are not required to keep down. It is riddled with *dobas* and old tanks, and the Commissioners permit the formation of new ones for bricks and house-making. They also allow the drains to be built over for private conveniences. The whole management of the town, as a specimen of Local Self-Government, is a complete failure. The Commissioners effect no good to the people. They tax them and give no adequate return. They support a large establishment which seems to study how to neglect work, and succeeds in finding out the way. Altogether, the state of Serampore is highly discreditable to all concerned. What is wanted is life in the administration of the Municipality. The presence of cholera here all the year round, and the fearful loss of life therefrom, should have awakened the Commissioners to a sense of their duty and responsibility towards their constituents. But even these considerations seem to have failed to rouse them to a proper sense of their duties. As a body administering public fund, it is undoubtedly their imperative duty to work in a manner which is calculated to bring about the greatest good to the greatest number. I trust that the Commissioners will now accord serious consideration to the suggestions offered under the several branches of sanitation in the present, as well as in the previous report, and take adequate steps to materially improve the sanitary condition of the town committed to their care. If they do not, I shall consider it my duty to refer the matter to Government."

DIWAN PARUMAL KHURCHAND, Deputy Collector of Jacobabad, notwithstanding the advocacy of Mr. Monhomun Ghose, has been convicted by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Mr. Mules on the prosecution of the Deputy Commissioner Mr. Giles for corruption. He has been sentenced to three months' simple imprisonment and one thousand rupees fine. In announcing the order, the new paper of Karachi—the *Phoenix*—remarks :—

"This information will not cause the slightest astonishment. It was known from the beginning that the trial was a mockery. It was not a prosecution but a mere formality of securing a conviction. The Court of Mr. Mules was selected at the suggestion of the Prosecutor. Senior Magistrates well known for their ability and impartiality were not thought sufficiently able to try this case, but an obscure place and an obscure Magistrate were selected for the purpose. While the case was going on the Magistrate and Mr. Giles were living under the same roof. Throughout the case the Magistrate showed a determined bias against the accused. But he knew that he had the support of the highest local officials who would be all exceedingly gratified if he could convict the accused. It was a great compliment to Mr. Mules that he was selected in preference to older Magistrates to try a man who held the same position long ago that Mr. Mules holds now, and who was in receipt of the same salary."

WE read in the *Phoenix* :—

"During the present Sessions in Karachi, there was a murder case tried by a jury who unanimously acquitted the prisoner. It appears that there was no other evidence against the prisoner than a confession by him before a Magistrate, which was retracted at the trial. The Sessions Judge has disagreed with the verdict of the jury and has referred the case to the Sudder Court."

What sort of people are these jurymen who unanimously acquitted a self-accusing prisoner? Are they students in the Temple or unfledged vakeels? The roles of judge and jury seem exchanged. As a rule men do not accuse themselves for nothing and it were natural for the jury to take them at their word, and for the judge to interpose any legal subtleties. In the state of the Indian law as left us by Sir Fitz James Stephen the Karachee Judge is right, we believe. But then the superior courts do not consider it safe to convict on an withdrawn confession in the absence of incriminating evidence.

THE following changes are notified in the *Bengal Gazette* :—

Mr. J. Ware-Edgar, C. S. I., Chief Secretary, is allowed leave for one month. Mr. M. Finucane, Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, is allowed special leave for five months, in commutation of privilege leave. Mr. Henry, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Champaran, is allowed leave for one month and 27 days, and Mr. Bright, of Bettiah, Champaran, is appointed to act for him. Mr. J. Tweedie, District and Sessions Judge, Shahabad, is allowed furlough for eight months, and Mr. B. G. Geidt is appointed to act for him. Mr. C. C. Quinn, Magistrate and Collector, Patna, is allowed leave for two months, and Mr. C. R. Marriott, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, on leave, is appointed to act for him. Mr. P. Nolan, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General, Revenue, and Statistical Departments, is allowed leave for two months, Mr. H. J. S. Cotton acting for him. Mr. Goodricke, Deputy Collector of Calcutta, is allowed furlough for six months. Mr. Waller, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Khulna, is allowed leave for three months, Mr. F. F. J. T. Maguire, acting for him. Mr. G. E. Manisty, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Pabna, is allowed leave for two months and 28 days; Mr. E. F. Growse, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Buxar, Shahabad, for one month; and Mr. W. V. G. Tayler, Magistrate and Collector, Bankura, for three months.

IN the same authoritative way are the following dispositions in the Police and medical departments, announced :—

Mr. Judge, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Bengal, has been granted extension of leave on medical certificate for two months. Mr. A. Shuttleworth, Assistant Superintendent of Police, is posted temporarily to Dinagepur. Mr. E. H. D'Oyly, Assistant Superintendent, Darjiling, is appointed to act as District Superintendent of Police, Rangpur. Mr. J. B. Birch, District Superintendent, Howrah, is transferred to Maimansing, and Mr. C. C. Plowden, Assistant Superintendent, is posted to Howrah. Mr. S. N. Walker, Assistant Superintendent, on leave, is posted temporarily to Darjiling. Mr. H. B. St. Leger, Officiating Assistant Superintendent, is transferred to Purnea. Surgeon J. Ffrench-Mullen, Civil Surgeon, Tippera, is appointed to Nadia. Surgeon R. J. Polden, Chittagong, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Tippera, and Surgeon-Major W. Flood Murray is appointed to Chittagong. Surgeon-Major J. J. Monteath is appointed to act as Civil-Surgeon of Hugli. Dr. V. Richards, Goalondo, is appointed to be Health Officer of the Port of Calcutta, *vice* Dr. S. S. Lynch, retired.

WE note with satisfaction that Kumar Girindra Narain Deb, officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is Gazetted as Magistrate and Collector of Pooree, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. D. B. Allen, and Kumar Gopendra Krishna, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sealdah, is to act as Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, during the absence on leave, of Mr. G. E. Manisty. Both these

gentlemen are scions of the Sovabazar Raj family, and Statutory Civilian.

At Naples, recently it rained black and muddy. Professor Palmieri, of the Vesuvius Observatory, explains that strong winds from Africa raise into the air any amount of dust, and rain, passing through this, is rendered black and muddy.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 14th July, 1888, amounted to £4,130,000.

It is curious and not a little mournful, to mark the process of religion-making. Already, myths are gathering round the career of Dayanand Saraswati, a preacher who died only yesterday. This is the most notable contribution—from one Radhe Lal Varma, of Fyzabad, who writes to the *Indian Union*—to the *Lalita Vistara* of the new Buddha :—

"He was born in the family of a respectable Audich Brahmin at Morwee in Gujrat in 1825. From his infancy he showed the signs of talent and mental precocity, and his wonderful capacity for knowledge enabled him to master a commentary on the Yajur Veda at the age of 14. One day his father took him to a shrine of Shiva. While engaged in service his mind was struck on seeing the mice come out of their holes and commence to run about the idol and help themselves with the rice put on its head. From this he inferred that it could not be the Omnipotent Supreme Being. This thought he expressed to his father who tried in vain to purge his mind from it. Shortly after the death of his sister and uncle the notion of the instability of the world impressed upon his mind and assured him that the pleasures of the world are transient. His father supposing that he would go astray determined to marry him. When everything was ready for the marriage, he quitted his home one evening. He took an unfrequented path and travelled more than 20 miles during the night. Every day removed him further from his native country until he reached Sedhipur. In the meantime his father was making a search after him, and no sooner he came to know the place of his retreat than he came to him with a few sepoys. His father was angry with him, but being told he (Swami Dayanand) was ready to start for home, he calmed himself. His father ordered a constant watch to be kept over him. On the 4th night the sepoy came under the influence of sleep, which gave him an opportunity to escape. He went out of the town and hid himself over a tree in a garden. He passed that day over it and no sooner it was dark than he started off. This was the last meeting, and his parents heard nothing of him since. For many years he wandered all over India. Wherever he heard of a learned man, he at once went to him in spite of every difficulty, and if he found him better informed than himself learned it from him with great attention. It would be too tedious to give the details of the places visited by him. It is sufficient to say that on his return from Himalayan scenery he went to Swami Virja Nand, the famous divine philosopher of Muttra. With him he read the Vedas and the glosses on them and revised all that he had formerly studied. On the completion of his studies he set out on his mission of the regeneration of Arya Varta. He became a travelling preacher and with the view of reviving the true and extirpating the false religion, he refuted the wrong opinions of the so-called Pandits wherever he went. His last plan was that books should be composed, and meetings held in every large town to lecture to the people that they might see their fallen state and try to improve it. It succeeded and societies under the name of the Arya Samaj, have been established in all the provinces of India."

THE Czar and Emperor William have met, and landed at Peterhoff. Their greetings were most cordial.

THE House of Lords have passed the Bill extending the jurisdiction of the Indian High Courts. Lord Cross has introduced a Bill to amend the India Council Act—how, is not stated in the telegram. In the Commons, Mr. Smith has brought in a bill appointing a Special Commission to enquire into the *Times'* charges against Mr. Parnell.

IN the French Chamber of Deputies, a Bill has been read a first time for grant of credit of sixty seven million francs (£2,680,000) for the better defences of Brest, Cherbourg, and Toulon.

M. FLOQUET and General Boulanger have had their duel, both being wounded, the former very slightly, the latter rather seriously. The General, however, is getting over it.

A YOKOHAMA telegram of the 18th reports a volcanic eruption in Japan. Four hundred persons are said to have been killed and a thousand injured.

A DYNAMITE plot has been discovered at Chicago. It was planned to murder the Judges who sentenced the anarchists there and to destroy the public buildings.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE sensation of the week is the arrest of an eminent and popular member of the Covenanted Civil Service, with a view to his trial on serious charges of corruption. Such an event is startling enough, but its painful interest has been heightened by the romance of that officer's flight from justice and of the successful pursuit of the Police after him.

Mr. Crawford, Commissioner of the Central Bombay Division, was on Monday suspended by the Local Government. Next day, under cover of night and in disguise, he fled from his station, Poona. The following telegram from that place to the *Englishman* shows his mysterious disappearance :—

POONA, JULY 19.

"Mr. Crawford disappeared from Poona on Tuesday night. His brother arrived from Bombay that night, but did not find Mr. Crawford in his bungalow, so he enquired from the servants, who gave no particulars further than that he was in the bungalow half-an-hour before. A letter was found saying that he had gone for a walk near Holkar's Bridge. His brother went there, but could not find him. The police were then informed, and steps were taken to trace the mystery. On Wednesday information was received that Mr. Crawford went to Bombay and travelled in the third class, disguised. He was met at the Byculla station by Colonel Portman, Superintendent of Railway Police, and brought back to Poona last night. They alighted at the Kirkee station. Mr. Crawford's house has been sealed and locked, and placed in charge of the police. Mr. Crawford's late additional assistant has been suspended from his office, and the clerks have been transferred to distant stations."

The following telegram from Bombay, condensed from the *Englishman*, gives the particulars of Mr. Crawford's escape and capture :—

"At ten O'clock on Monday, Mr. Crawford was suspended from his duties. Early on Wednesday morning, Inspector Jeffries, of the G. I. P. Railway Police, was visited by Mr. Ommaney, Inspector-General of Police, and Major Babington, Superintendent of Police, Poona, and was ordered by them to leave Poona for Bombay by the mail leaving at 5-15 A. M., and to keep a sharp lookout for Mr. Crawford. In the event of his entering a train Mr. Ommaney, was to be advised by telegraph of the circumstance. Jeffries was also instructed not to interfere in any way with the movements of Mr. Crawford. Armed with these instructions the Inspector prepared to leave Poona by the mail, but while waiting for its arrival from Raichore, the man whom he was set to watch made his appearance on the platform, disguised by a long grey beard, and a slouched hat, with the flaps drawn over his eyes. The disguise was completed by a handkerchief being wound round his neck, and a long overcoat reaching to his heels. The Policeman approached the fugitive, and asked him in an off-hand way whither he was bound. Mr. Crawford answered that his destination was Tanna. The Inspector offered to purchase him a ticket, and Mr. Crawford assenting he was provided with a third-class ticket for Tanna. Jeffries having communicated by letter with the Inspector-General, left with Mr. Crawford, but acting on telegraphic instructions received from Mr. Ommaney at Kurjut, he left the train at that station, and started to return to Poona by the early morning train from Bombay. His further progress was arrested at Lanowlie by another telegram from Mr. Ommaney directing him to return to Bombay, and keep Mr. Crawford in view.

Meantime Mr. Crawford had continued his journey from Kalyan to Bombay as a second-class passenger by a local train, and on alighting at Byculla station, he immediately drove to the Victoria Hotel, opposite the Prince's Dock. He solicited from Mr. Connell, the proprietor, the services of one of the barmen to get him a second-class ticket for Colombo from the P. and O. office in the Fort. Previously, however, he had written to the chief steward of the *Teheran*, the steamer which leaves to-morrow with the Australian mails, to arrange for a second-class passage to Colombo. The letter was signed 'James G.' and intimated that the writer had just arrived in Bombay from Jubbulpore in a very precarious state of health, and was advised to go on a voyage to Ceylon or further. He also asked to be allowed to go on board at once as he was extremely ill. The letter was handed to the second officer of the vessel, who replied that he had no power to take any passenger on board unless he was provided with a ticket from the head office."

The *Englishman's* Poona Correspondent wires :—

"It is said that a Brahman has made various charges against Mr. Crawford, implicating Haveli Mamladars of Poona and Ahmednagar who also have been suspended. Humantrao Jaghirdar has been arrested by warrant. Messrs. Ritchie, Naylor, and Nugent have been constituted a Commission to enquire into the matter, and Mr. Kennedy, the Superintendent of Police, Satara, has been ordered to come here to take part in a police investigation."

Another correspondent adds that Mr. Moore, the Akbari Commissioner, has been ordered to take charge of Mr. Crawford's office. The *Englishman* has shown resource and enterprise on this occasion. On Thursday, it published long telegrams while the other morning papers were silent. Probably their correspondents relied upon the Bombay papers which maintained a conspiracy of silence. We can understand this tenderness towards a high Civilian and popular member of "society"—the corrupt have need and can afford to be popular—but, in such an explosion and under the obvious determination of the Government, to do the right, the effort at suppression is a feeble mistake.

SINCE then, the *Indian Daily News's* man has bestirred himself and supplied fresh and copious intelligence.

The information up to yesterday, is that Mr. Crawford has been freed on bail for Rs. 70,000, and Himmat Rao on Rs. 50,000. The latter was the former's Head-Assistant who is charged with receiving Rs. 400 for inducing Mr. Crawford to appoint his head clerk a Deputy Accountant in Khandeish Collectorate. All sorts of rumours are afloat in the Presidency. It is said that the Secretary of State has telegraphed to Lord Reay, suggesting for Mr. Crawford a criminal trial. In consequence of this message, the Governor held a conference with Messrs. Nugent, Naylor, and Richey. Another story is that on leaving, Mr. Ozanne, Inspector-General of Police, left a sealed packet with Mr. Muir Mackenzie which the latter was to lay before the Governor. This packet is believed to have contained an account of the sale of a farm by Mr. Crawford. On reading it, Lord Reay went down to Mr. Richie's bungalow, where he met Messrs. Richie, Nugent, Taylor, &c. Nothing is for certain known about their nature and result of these conferences. Certain it is that the inquiry is being pushed with exemplary vigor. Thirteen other officials have been suspended, some apparently pending the trial of their good faith as witnesses in the coming inquiry. Mr. Moore, too, Mr. Crawford's successor as Commissioner of the Central Division, has commenced office with dismissing four clerks. Between dismissals and suspensions, so many have been rendered *hors de combat*, that in the exigency of administration the reserve force of pensioners have been called back to active service. There is a thorough overhauling going on.

The whole Central Division seem rotten to the core. The administration was peculiarly favourable to the growth of speculation. *Looters* of every hue, as befits its historic associations, abound in the land, in the service of Government. Chief of them—the St. Ethelbert of Bombay—seems to be Mr. Arthur Crawford, of the great Indian Civil Service, the admired of "society" in the West.

A great European speculator is not by any means a Dodo in these days. But the net to catch him is rarely forthcoming. Since the trial of Collector Batson or the inquiry on Resident Colebrooke, there has not been such a whale fished out of the deep seas of administration.

WE shall not be surprised to learn that there is considerable uneasiness in at least rural Hindu society down South, though Europeans in the country—the nearest in the neighbourhood—might not suspect. We—the great majority—are still loyal to the old Faith, and Gods and Brahmins have still power to move us, for good or for evil. A distinct call in the name of religion is likely to draw. Signs of such a call seem to be in the air in the Carnatic country. A distracting, though, truth to confess, rather unnecessary but all the more suspicious because so unmeaning, document, purporting to come from the holy of holies, the shrine of the great Viswanath himself in Benares, and embodying a miraculous message, is being circulated in the Districts of the Madras Presidency. This is a translate of the Tamil Circular in its passage through Salem:—

"May Sri Kasi Viswanatha help us. A notice received from the temple of Sri Kasi Viswanatha Swami. The following is the inscription drawn on a beautiful gold parchment leaf that dropped accidentally from Heaven into the temple of Viswanatha Swami at the city of Sri Kasi (Benares):—'On and from Wednesday, the 24th day of Masi, of the year Sarnathari current (corresponding to 6th March, 1889,) Sukla Patcham, Panchami, Aswani star, after one Indian hour after sunrise in Meena Laguan, all things will begin to go on just and proper in this Kaliyuga: the day will be longer than the nights—the nights consisting of only 25 Indian hours (Naligais): each and every soul will be devoid of all disease and bodily pain and will live up to, or their age will be, 125: in the month of Karthigai (November-December) of the said year the Supreme Being (Bhagavan) will become Emperor in the northern country; as virtue and vice are now not discriminated in this world, it is said that, after that period, virtue and sages will become famous.' The foregoing are the inscriptions contained in the said parchment. Those that chance to learn this news should make a copy thereof, and should circulate this to the other villages. Those that so notify this will gain virtue worth the presenting or making gift of 100 cows, but those that fail to so notify will lose virtue worth the presenting or destroying of a gift of 100 cows. If anybody were to disbelieve this notification, they will become doomed to Hell, called Erowravathi."

Whether this message has come all the way from Benares, to say nothing of Heaven, may well be doubted. We don't hear of it nearer home, and it is as silly as the deliverance of a Spiritualist medium speaking in the name of the mighty dead. All the same it may be true—true as a fraud, that is. No enquiries have been made in Benares, and these things are kept secret. But it is just possible that the thing was started somewhere in the South. Be that as it is, the

matter is worth inquiry, with a special view to find out if there is any political motive underlying it. Some Phadke may be at bottom. The stupidity may work mischief among the simple.

THE Poetry of the Burman War—the romance of its guerillaism—has yet to be written—its Humour makes its appearance, though in dribblets from time to time. Here is a snatch in the shape of an Indo-Hebernian anecdote—from Mr. Kipling's new book:—

The British detachment could not discover where the Dacoits abode; but "Evenshually we *puckarowed* wan man. 'Trate him tunderly,' sez the Lift'nint. So I tuk him away into the jungle, wid the Burmese Interpreter an' my clanin'-rod. Sez I to the man:—'My peaceful squireen,' sez I, 'you shquot on your hunkers an' dimonstrate to my frind here, where *your* frinds are whan they're at home?' Wid that I introjuced him to the clanin'-rod, an' he comminst to jabber; the Interpreter interpretin' in between, an' me helpin' the Intelligence Department wid my clanin'-rod whan the man misremimbered.'" It has been explained just before that "'Tis only a *dah* and a Snider that makes a dacoit. Widout thim he's a peaceful cultivator, an' felony for to shoot."

Mr. Kipling draws from the life, of course. What a life! If the natives are dacoits, the strangers are not the most amiable god-fearing knights. Above all, what a society is this of India to *Bakhova* these *puckarowallas* among the *Pahurawallas* of the general peace of the Empire!

HERE is what the *World* said some time ago:—

"It is seldom that a Queen's Birthday list of decorations contains the name of anyone more worthy of recognition than Mr. Monro, the Assistant Commissioner of Police, who was last week gazetted a C. B. Mr. Monro has a distinguished record as an Indian Civil servant. After filling numerous posts of an important but less prominent character in Lower Bengal, including those of District Magistrate, Under-Secretary to the Government, District and Sessions Judge, &c., he became Inspector-General of Police, and finally Commissioner of the Presidency Division. No service that he ever rendered was better deserving of reward than was his action with reference to the Ilbert Bill and the Local Self-Government Bills. His reports against these measures were among the most important State papers which the controversy produced, and they attracted prominent notice both in India and at home. But the service thus rendered was at the expense of Lord Ripon's baneful policy, and, of course, when Mr. Monro left India in 1883 Lord Ripon's Government allowed him to retire undecorated. The following year he took charge of the Criminal Investigation Department at Scotland Yard, and his administration of that office has marked a new era in London police work. His brilliant successes in thwarting Fenian plots and bringing the dynamiters to justice have been frequently recognised by the press and the public; but it is only now that they have been thus tardily acknowledged by the Government."

Mr. Monro was an able and energetic public servant in India, blessed with a keen nose for crime. Placed in Bengal, a quiet country with a mild and generally inoffensive population, his blessing turned at most a curse, to himself and others. His genius was wasted and occasionally abused—to the injury of his reputation and his temper. That at least, is the impression left on us by a contemporary who knew him well, and had suffered from him. He was not the kind of officer to be popular. He was a live public servant, and thoroughly individual. He had too much "go," and he would always have his "say." He was a man of strong and not amiable views. Among the subordinate servants of Government, he led the opposition to the proposals formulated in the Local Self-Government Resolution and the Ilbert Bill. On the former in especial, he showed grasp and wonderful knowledge of the country.

THE *Indian Union* is looking up. For an organ of Citizen Singh, it is wonderfully sober. It is still disfigured by typographical errors, but that is a defect easily rectifiable up to the Indian standard of correctness. Anything like absolute accuracy is, of course, out of the question in this country. We are glad to note signs of new blood in our contemporary's veins. The paper is now being ably written and conducted with spirit. For a provincial native organ, there are perhaps too much of European politics. These, however, are handled with knowledge. Considering that Continental complications in the near future are destined to mould our destinies, it is a distinct advantage to have in the heart of Upper India a native journal able to take their measure and understand their drift. The last issue contains a good article on Foreign Affairs marred by an inapt quotation, feeble in itself and farther spoiled in the adaptation. Poetry is clearly not our contemporary's forte.

THE report which first appeared in the *Srimanta Swadagar* is being widely copied, that a Bengali Babu Jogendra Nath Muklick, of Bhowani-

pore, has just married at Mandalay a Burmese girl. She is the daughter of a Muktear who is said to be both rich and respectable among his people. It is not said by what form they were united. We suspect the Registrar officiated as the Poongy on the occasion. Is the astute Soudagar sure that he has not been deceived into accepting what in Moslem Imaneea parlance may be called the Burman *Mhola* as veritable marriage proper and pure. Such unions may be called marriages by courtesy but they are strongly differentiated from the orthodox Hindu institution. Foreign residents in Ultragangetic India have always availed themselves of the convenience offered by the customs of the country. Europeans have specially grasped at the opportunity of playing the Turk and enjoying Harew Life beyond the bounds of Christendom, without fear of the operation of the marriage law in Europe. From time to time attempts have been made to put down the scandal, but in vain Mormonism without fealty to Joseph Smith laughed at the fulminations of Chief Commissioners and Bishops. Recent events must have given it wider scope and expansion. It is as well, perhaps, that it is so, since men cannot be improved by act of Parliament, any more than by Papal Bulls.

THE Moorshedabad Correspondents of the morning papers were premature in stating that the great Jagat Sett family case had closed and only awaited judgment. We hear that the case for the defendant had closed, but the plaintiff's reply remained, before it were time for the court to decide and pronounce judgment. The court of the Sub-Judge of Moorshedabad is now occupied with the plaintiff's reply. His leading pleader Babu Gopal Chunder of the local bar being too ill to attend, Manick Chand (the Plaintiff) procured the services of Babu Taraprosunno Mookerjee, the able and accomplished vakeel of Burdwan. Baboo Taraprosunno appears to have already given proofs of his mettle. Having come late into the field, in a difficult and novel line of litigation, he presumably shows wonderful grasp of the contention as well as familiarity with strange institutions and tribal peculiarities to be able to engage the court for a week, as he has been doing. He has a foeman worthy of his steel in Babu Boikuntha Nath Barat, who is the leader on the opposite side, supported by almost the whole strength of the Berhampore bar.

WE copy from a distant paper the following news which originally appeared nearer home :—

"A silver *gote*, or chain, belonging to a lady of Rajbulhab was stolen some time ago. Madhub Roy, the head of the family, brought a charmer, or a man having the reputation of detecting a thief by *batti chala*, or setting a cup in motion. The charmer placed on the ground a *batty* or cup held by another person, which moved on by itself, according to popular notion, to the house of one Chundra Coomar Chuckerbutty, a neighbour. As this cup affair is an imputation on the character of Chundra Coomar in the eyes of his village men, he instituted criminal proceedings for defamation, under Section 500 of the Indian Penal Code, before the Joint-Magistrate of Serampore. The offence being considered proved, the Joint-Magistrate, on Saturday last, (23rd June) fined the accused Rs. 10, or in default, one week's rigorous imprisonment."—*I. D. News*.

That is like foolish Young Briton set to do justice among a strange people, without training or juridical knowledge or familiarity with the ideas and usages of the country, or indeed of any other. It was obviously a case for dismissal. And the pettifoggers who advised Chunder Coomar, should have been sternly rebuked. It is preposterous to convict a man for *batti-chala* or astrology. He may just as well be punished for practising Homœopathy. The offence was considered proved—because, forsooth, the *batti-chala* was. O lame and impotent conclusion! The utmost that the Joint could have done with propriety, was to discharge Madhub Roy with a dubious warning to be careful in future about the objects of such indigenous methods of thief-catching.

That case is sociologically and politically important, as showing the conflict between the institutions of the people and an alien jurisprudence and judicature. Herein is displayed the curse of subjection. It is because the little finger of the young Joint was superior to all *sastra* and *shara* and all the common law of the country, that this litigious Chuckerbutty could affect to make a grievance of *batti-chala*. Is there no council of elders and no excasting machinery at Rajbulhab?

THE late General MacGregor's memorial portrait was lately unveiled, with befitting ceremony and in a good speech, by the Viceroy at Simla. It is a true work of art by the eminent Scotch Academician, who,

happily for us, has been in India for these two years. Although Mr. Archer never saw his subject, he has been able to execute from a photograph not only a successful but a striking likeness.

Sir Charles MacGregor was not only an all round officer of great ability, successful alike in the camp and the field as well as on the staff and in the *bureau*, but also a literary soldier. We read in the *Army and Navy Gazette* that he has left a mass of writings on military and other subjects, in print and in manuscript, which may yet be edited for publication. By way of a preliminary to the official part of the work, Colonel Mark Bell, R. E., the head of the Intelligence department, in the Quarter Master-General of India's office, is engaged on a memorandum on the various gazetteers and handbooks, mostly of a confidential nature, prepared by the deceased, from the time of Sir Hugh Rose's Command-in-chief, who 17 years ago initiated the work.

Application has also been made to the Governor-General in Council for permission to publish an abridgment of the History of the Second Afghan War, in 6 bulky volumes compiled by or under the direction and superintendence of, General MacGregor, subject to the censorship of the Indian military department. This has raised the question of copyright between the heirs of the deceased and the Government. It is an interesting but by no means an easy question, and it is believed that a compromise will be effected. This is to be regretted. In the interest of military literature and of the growing class of officers with the gift of expression and the capacity for inquiry and patience for details, we wish the point were not evaded. We are far from desiring to see a plunge into the whirlpool of litigation. The Indian taxpayer cannot in these days afford such luxuries, and it were a pity to dissipate the departed soldier's hard-earned gain on respectable solicitors and eminent counsel. But could not a somewhat satisfactory, if not quite authoritative, decision be procured by a less expensive method—say, by reference to the final arbitrament of a single retired Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor or Master of the Rolls, or other Equity lawyer of reputation for literature and judgment? To our mind, such a private tribunal would be better for the end in view than the lottery of bench upon bench. The point is new and the best Judges would be reduced to decide it on imperfect analogies drawn from proximate or at most approximate precedents. From whatever machinery a decision is procured, to do justice and give satisfaction, the Judge or arbitrator should himself be a literary man, a man who has written and, if possible, published. Even a great Equity lawyer without the literary qualification, is likely to miss the point. He might see no cause of action at all. *Prima facie*, a man who writes under orders in his official capacity, while in the receipt of pay, has no leg to stand on as a claimant of copyright. A man is not twice paid for the same work. Thus the copyright in periodicals vests in the publishers, not in the paid authors of the different articles.

Meanwhile, Major-General MacGregor's Letters and Diaries, edited by Lady MacGregor, is ready and will soon be issued by Blackwood.

MR. MOSS, B. A., the new Head Master of Breck's Memorial School, at Ootacamund, has got into trouble. In advertising for a few boarders, he was particular in mentioning that none but "sons of gentlemen" will be admitted. He may just as well have poked his nose into a hornet's nest. The majority of Christians and English (more or less pure) speaking folks down South are up in arms against him. A contributor to the *Madras Standard* breaks out :—

"What does this young Head Master mean? What significance does he attach to the expression *gentleman*? Suppose I went up to him and told him I was the son of Mr. So, and So, on receipt of a salary of Rs. 250 a month, would he receive me into his house as the 'son of a Gentleman'?"

In his indignation the writer loses the perspicacity of his language.

"It is so difficult to see what this learned teacher is driving at. Is it the son of a Governor who is the son of a Gentleman?"

Does our *Standard* dwalah mean, Is the son of a Governor which Governor is the son of a gentleman, to be accounted a gentleman's son? But the next item in the angry catechism clears up the matter.

"Does he want the son of a Councillor and will he reject the son of an honest man—a gentleman withal—because he is in poor circumstances, although sufficiently above water to give his son a decent education?"

The interrogative mood ended, the writer goes on,

"I would advise Mr. Moss, inexperienced as he is, to be guarded in his expressions. He has only recently come out, and is quite a boy, and if he has learnt anything, he surely has learnt that it is not a white

face and a fat purse that makes a gentleman; and let him not be contaminated with the significance of the word which is placed on it by the so-called *Society* of Madras. *Society indeed!*"

Which, rendered in vernacular, amounts to this—*Puppy beware*. Then he quotes from an article somewhere on the momentous question Who are gentlemen and who are not, written by an Englishman and a gentleman, (the Italics the *Standard* writer's,) from whom he quotes :—

"In one class, and not long ago, he was regarded as a gentleman who kept a gig. He is a gentleman in one house who does not eat peas with his knife; in another who is not to be discountenanced by any created form of butler. In my own case I have learned to move among pompous menials without much terror, never without much respect. So long as they publicly tread the boards of their profession, it would be difficult to find more finished gentlemen; and it would often be a matter of grave thought with me, sitting in my club, to compare the bearing of the servants with that of those on whom they waited. There could be no question which were the better gentlemen."

He repeats

"That to be the son of a Governor, of a Councillor, or of a Colonel is not necessarily to be the 'son of a Gentleman.'"

And finally ends with his theory of what constitutes a gentleman,

"He is a gentleman who is respected and thoroughly honest, no matter what his position in life; who pays his bills regularly; who thrives not on other people's earnings; and who has the courage to tell Mr. Moss as much."

That not only throws over-board the famous definition given at Thelwel's trial, but goes beyond Tennyson, who now as Lord Tennyson is more than ever an authority as to what constitutes a gentleman.

MR. GOODRICKE has obtained his furlough of six months. Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee, First Personal Assistant to the Presidency Commissioner, is Gazetted in his place, as Deputy Collector of Calcutta and Superintendent of Excise Revenue. The jurisdiction extends to the district of Calcutta, to so much of the district of the 24-Pergunnahs as is within the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and to so much of the district of Hooghly as is composed within the limits of the Municipality of Howrah. He will also act as Collector of Stamp Revenue, Calcutta. Within the same area, Mr. S. J. Kilby will act as Collector of Income Tax. Mr. Goodricke had charge of both these Departments which gave him a wide field for himself.

We informed our readers last week that Mr. Goodricke was loath to avail himself of the leave he had procured at no small sacrifice, even of life itself, and that Mr. Smith ordered him several times to fix his last day in the Collectorate, but he avoided. The Divisional Commissioner then reported the matter to Government, and on Wednesday peremptory order was issued and served on the out-going Collector, and Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee took over charge the same afternoon.

Mr. Goodricke's sticking to his old love has not been all evil to Government. A gentleman whose duties constantly led him to be present before the Collector was never called upon or forgot to pay his income tax since its imposition and only last week forwarded a rather large sum as his quota of the impost.

THE Maharaja of Cooch Behar is coming down to Calcutta on the 25th.

OUR contemporaries are making themselves unnecessarily uneasy about the last news from Pelitana. There is not much in it. The affair has been exaggerated to the prejudice of the Jains in the telegram from Ahmedabad by an enemy or a sensation-monger. The fault is the Jains'. If the Thakoor Saheb has put seals on the temple property he is within his right, the Jains not having paid the Rs. 20,000 which they agreed to pay annually in settlement of their long standing differences with the Chief.

Mookeem Buddree Das Bahadoor of our city is going to the spot to see to the affair. In connection with this subject we may mention as an illustration of the extent to which advertising has gone even among the hitherto unsophisticated classes of our countrymen that the Mookeem's intention was communicated to the press before his people knew anything about it. The Jains of Calcutta—a small compact community—heard of it first from their acquaintances, mostly Bengalis, who read the papers.

THE papers lately reported the death of the Dowager Maharani of Cooch Behar at Benares at the age of 100. And the general belief is, not only among Europeans but natives, and in Benares itself, that the Maharaja of Cooch Behar has lost his mother. We may therefore, as well assure the friends and wellwishers of the Maharaja that His Highness has suffered no such heavy bereavement.

Nor was the poor old lady who died the other day a hundred years old, as the papers would have us suppose. She was old enough no doubt, but had not attained her ninetieth year. Another instance of that habit of exaggeration and disregard of exactness for which we are so much taken to task.

This lady was a *Kanyapatri* of the late Raja Sivendra Narayan—the grand-father of the present Maharaja. Our readers may not know what a *Kanyapatri* is. Polygamy is an ancient institution in Cooch Behar, and some of the forms of marriage which are in vogue there, are so loose, so devoid of all sacramental character, that doubts naturally arise in the Hindu mind as to the validity of such union and the legitimacy of offsprings born of such wedlock. *Kanyapatri* system is one of these latter forms. A maiden bestowed by a relative, at the time of the marriage of a Raja, probably with a view to perpetuate his or her influence through such woman, and who helps the bride in some of the ceremonies as a bridesmaid, is a *Kanyapatri*. The bride who is married after the approved method, is the *Patrdni*, and these bridesmaids (the number is usually 5) are treated as wives by the inferior form of marriage. Such marriages are considered valid in Cooch Behar, and the issues of such marriages are not under a ban of illegitimacy. If there are no sons by marriage of a superior form, sons of *Kanyapatri*s come in for inheritance. In fact, the present is the son of a *Kanyapatri*, and there being no male child born of the approved union, the guddee came to him.

This poor lady, who was no more the Dowager Maharani of Cooch Behar than Lady Rosamond was the Queen to Henry II, was a *Kanyapatri* by marriage and was better known as Kanakesani Aye Gherani of Sivendra Narayan's household. She was treated with great respect by all the members of the household on account of her many womanly virtues and her general devoutness and piety. So much for the so called Dowager Maharani. The counterfeit one is dead, the real one is still hale and hearty in her blind retirement.

WE deeply regret to record the death of our eminent countryman Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee, which took place unexpectedly from a sudden attack of dysentery, at his residence in the Trans-Hoogly town of Uttarpara, on Thursday the 19th at half past ten in the morning. We offer our sincere condolence to Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee and the Uttarpara family. The country has sustained an irreparable loss.

He was a man, take him for all in all,

We shall not look upon his like again.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1888.

THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

HUQ V. THE LATE SALAR JUNG.

In his evidence before the Select Committee on the great mining fraud Abdul Huq repels the charge of having defrauded his master the Nizam out of the mining rights in his territories. He declares the late Sir Salar Jung to have approved the scheme, while he defends his own appropriation of £250,000 thereunder, by producing a note written to him by the deceased Minister in January 1882, in which as Minister of the Nizam he, Sir Salar Jung, stated that he would have no objection to Huq's receiving "any remuneration in the railway and mining schemes with which the promoters might reward his services." And this letter was honestly interpreted by him to mean—that

the Minister would have no objection to his pocketing ~~44~~ to 30 lakhs of rupees (one quarter of the price for which the Concession was sold) as a mild return for his efforts to assist the parties who were willing to become owners of all the Mining rights of the State—for nothing!

He declares that he innocently understood this 'line of assurance,' as the Minister himself terms it, to mean that he had the Minister's authority to concede the whole of the mining rights of the Nizam's territories gratuitously to Mr. Watson, with permission to stipulate for a payment of 25 lacs to himself for any assistance as he might give Mr. Watson in selling those rights for £1,000,000 sterling in London. The clear meaning of the letter is that if a Company were formed in London to purchase these mining rights for the Nizam's Government, he Sir Salar Jung as Minister of that Government would have no objection to Huq's receiving remuneration from its promoters for any assistance he might unofficially give them.

The fact that Sir Salar Jung after thirty years' administration of the Nizam's Government not only left no money behind him, but left 30 lakhs of debt is sufficient evidence of his absolute purity in a service, in which speculation is common, in which, had he been an ordinary man, he would have amassed millions. But now he is gone, and unable to defend himself, we are to understand it seems, on the authority of this man Huq, that he was at the same time so reckless of his master's interests as well as his own that he intended by this 'line of assurance' to Huq, to allow that worthy to sell on his own account and profit all the mining rights of the Hyderabad territory, and that if Huq's own share in the plunder should amount to £250,000 the minister would think him fairly entitled to it as a reward for his services in putting £10,00,000 sterling into the pockets of his confederates and himself! And Mr. Watson says that both he and Mr. Winter also understood the Minister's letter to mean this too. It will be observed that this letter of the deceased minister bears date 5th January 1882, and that the mining fraud was conceived as far back as 1881. It had its origin in the month of September 1881 and the whole scheme was cut and dried by the 23rd December of that year, when Mr. Winter proposed it at length to certain parties in London, who were to co-operate therein. The scheme was not finally accomplished until four years later (January 1886) and this scrap of a note of Sir Salar Jung's bearing date January 1882 is now brought forward by Mr. Watson to clear himself and Huq from the suspicion that they were acting without warrant. What warrant does the letter give for anything but the receipt by Huq of a proper remuneration for any *bonâ fide* services that he might render a *fide* Company in London willing to develop the mining resources of the State? It is preposterous to suppose that the great Vizier *sans tâche et sans reproche* but himself to the Huq scheme of plunder.

THE ISHMAEL FAMILY OF KUMAON.

OUR native contemporary of Allahabad gives a family memoir, which we cannot, in duty, pass over. The writer knows how to state, but he has no need to waste words; his facts, if facts they are, speak for themselves. The narrative is of enchainment yet painful interest. There is a terrible realism in this tale of a household of settlers in the Hills. It is a

ghastly story of rampant and ever-triumphant lawlessness, recalling the worst scenes of Border life in America. That such things should still be possible in India! such must be the involuntary exclamation of every right-minded man reading it. Life in the Hills, is associated in our imaginations with balls and picnics, lawn-tennis and flirtation and everything gay and happy. Who could imagine that in the very neighbourhood of the Versailles in the Hills, the indigenous inhabitants of the Hills were living in sorrow and suffering and constant terror from the violence of European emigrants and their descendants come to reside among them? But without more parley, let us introduce the Allahabad writer. He says:—

"Many years ago now, one Frederic Wilson, a Bombardier of artillery, purchased his discharge at Dinapore, and having purchased a gun, and some ammunition, shot his way up to Mussoorie, then in its infancy. At first he obtained employment in one of the schools; but the instincts of Ishmael being strong upon him, he wandered forth into the heart of the Himalayas, and settled down at Hursil, near Gungotri. For some time he lived among the lower castes of the Paharees as one of themselves, and finally ended by marrying a hill woman of the Joomriya or musician caste, by whom he had three sons, Charles, Henry, and Nuthoo. After a time by the sale of birds, skins and musk, followed by lucrative timber contracts, Mr. Frederic Wilson became a rich man and one of the local magnates of Mussoorie and Dehra Dun. A few years ago, on his death, he left several lacs of rupees to be divided between his widow and his three sons. Taking every thing into consideration much good and but little evil could be spoken of Shikaree Wilson; he was liberal in his charities, especially to the Leper Asylum, and his death was sincerely regretted by his friends, relatives, and acquaintances. He was a born naturalist, and contributed many valuable articles to many papers under the cognomen of Mountaineer.

Of Mr. Wilson's three sons, the eldest alone turned out passably well; therefore we shall not again allude to him. It is the youngest son, Nuthoo Wilson, whose career of crime, we shall now proceed to unfold. He began by debauching a high caste woman named Doorjee; when tired of her, he cast her adrift, and debauched another high caste woman named Godamree. For these escapades, his father had to pay heavy sums of money to those in power. Next Nuthoo Wilson murdered a man named Jowaroo at Naganee with a revolver, and a little while after nearly succeeded in murdering another man named Dirjoo at Jhala with a *kukri*. For these crimes Mr. Frederic Wilson compounded with those in power for a heavy sum of money and Nuthoo Wilson escaped scot free, and in consequence he became a perfect curse and a veritable scourge to the Paharees of the Bhagiruthi valley. He kept a pair of stocks at Hursil into which he used to put the wretched hill-men and traders at his own sweet will and pleasure. He also used to constitute himself the Tehree Gurhwal Post Office, reading, purloining, and destroying other people's letters. Besides other innumerable assaults, he nearly beat to death one Heerah, son of Nunda Buniyah. All these matters were duly reported to Sir Henry Ramsay and Sir Alfred Lyall in 1883-84; but no notice was taken, although they were warned that matters would come to a crisis, if Nuthoo Wilson was not forbidden the Tehree Gurhwal State.

And matters did come to a crisis last summer with a vengeance. Grown reckless with long impunity Nuthoo Wilson entered the house of a high caste Paharee, and ravished his sister by force. He then returned to the family mansion at Hursil, where he was protected against the hill people by his mother Mrs. Wilson and his brother Henry. Next day having armed himself, he entered the house of a high caste Bissahiri by name Mullaram, and murdered his wife, and an old man named Maniram. He then left the house, killing and wounding nearly a dozen more people, before he was apprehended and sent down to Tehree in irons."

The student of history has read of the Old Man of the Mountain, from whom the sect of Assassins took its rise, who sent out his fanatical disciples mad-dened with hemp on a mission of murder. Here is a Young Man of the Mountain, who goes out armed with gun and knife, to execute his own bloody views.

Our contemporary then quotes a full and unvarnished account from the pen of a European traveller, who came to the spot the day after the last outrage was committed. It is a wonder how he could, without emotion, record the horrible details, and, above all, how they could quietly accept, the hospitality of this miserable mongrel family, who are shame to both Asiatics and Europeans. Perhaps, as travellers in an uncivilised country, they had not much choice left. Perhaps, they were impelled by curiosity. Having seen the marks of Nathu Wilson's devastations including the human and other animal victims of his violence, and heard the villagers' story, they wish in justice to have the explanation of the hero himself.

Perhaps, they hoped to have something what might go in some measure, if not to exculpate a man bearing a Christian surname, at least to attenuate his guilt. They certainly found their host sufficiently communicative, and they made the most of their opportunities for observation for forming a judgment on the serious things which had come to, or been brought under, their notice. In any case, their testimony is above suspicion. And it thoroughly confirms our contemporary. This traveller is a German gentleman, and he mentions two other European eye-witnesses of the highest respectability, being themselves officials, Dr. Warth of the Dehra Dun Forest School, and Dr. Jameson, the Sanitary Commissioner of the Government of the North West Provinces.

But what did the Civil Power do to give security to the poor inhabitants and vindicate justice? The authorities were indifferent as usual, having probably more reasons than one not to be hard on their scapegrace of the Hills. The writer goes on:—

"After this appalling series of crimes matters were allowed to rest for more than six months by Mr. Hercules Ross, the Commissioner of Kumaon. Mr. Hercules Ross was a great friend of Mr. Frederic Wilson for many years while Superintendent of the Doon. Meanwhile the Wilson family were not idle, money was poured out like water at Tehri and elsewhere to secure the same impunity for Nathu Wilson that he had enjoyed on previous occasions. Mr. Hercules Ross, not wishing to see the son of his old friend come to the gallows, directed one of his native subordinates to try Nathu Wilson at Paurie. The trial, a hole and corner affair, accordingly took place last January, and Nathu Wilson in teeth of all the evidence was duly pronounced insane on the dictum of a third class Native Medical Subordinate, who knew on which side his bread was buttered. The evidence of Doctors Warth and Jameson was never called for although it was well known that both these gentlemen were ready to swear to the prisoner's perfect sanity. Nathu Wilson has for the present been consigned to the Bareilly Lunatic Asylum, but his friends are confident that in a short time he will be allowed to return to the bosom of his family a free man at liberty to recommence his career of crime when so disposed.

All these facts are well known to our European contemporaries of Northern India, why they have entered apparently into a conspiracy of silence is best known to themselves. After the trial, a sum of four hundred rupees was offered to Ghatuk for his father's murder, and two hundred rupees to Mullaram for his wife's murder, by the Kumaon authorities. But these poor Paharees have nobly refused to accept the price of blood and keep silent."

The poor hillmen—what can they do but keep silent. Dumb from ignorance and poverty, they are doubly dumb in terror. But will the public remain mute? Scandals are cropping up on all sides, but this Himalayan episode beats them all.

It will be remarked that the Allahabad journal talks of money being freely poured out. Who got it? And who else? We hope some inquiry will be made. Names are freely mentioned too of officers who allowed matters to be hushed up. At any other time, such insinuations would have been sufficiently met by a shrug of contempt on a Pshaw! of incredulity. But European reputation does not at this moment stand high enough for European assurance of that summary kind. The question will still be asked, Who received it?

ELECTRO-BIOLOGY.

FROM the day that Benjamin Franklin—the modern Prometheus of fact—flew his kite to bring down the lightning from Heaven, what strides have been made in our knowledge of that force in Nature manifested with that thunder-bolt which the imagination of many races and ages has regarded as the special and worthy weapon of Divine Power,—the Great God, call him Zeus or Indra—Jehovah, Jove, or Lord! In fact, electricity is one of the branches of science in which we have made most progress. From Franklin to Faraday, is a great leap—from dawn to day. Once the ball was set rolling, it has been in ceaseless motion, and Faraday, if he could peep through his grave, would be astonished at the triumphs achieved since his death by the Edisons and others. The subject has been raised to the dignity of a most important speciality, cultivated by organised bodies and

represented by organs in the press. And yet, truth to confess—so vast is science, so narrow human wit and so short the span of individual life—that we are still far from perfect sight. Where it is day it is still a foggy day. The striking figure of the child playing with pebbles on the great sea-shore, by which Newton expressed his own consciousness of feebleness before the mystery of the Universe, is true to this day. After all, the sum total of all our knowledge is just one remove from absolute ignorance. We are still groping in the dark, save for some streaks of light. Confining ourselves to Electricity, how much is our ignorance greater than our understanding of it! Can we really and efficiently control the artillery of the heavens? Not only do we not know the essential nature of the force, we do not know its connection with most things. Its relation to animal life is still obscure. This is a great pity, considering that from some indications, electricity seems not only to exercise a great influence on it, but also to have an occult connection with it. Why this should be, is a wonder, considering the great interest of the subject. It is hard to think of a more fascinating study than Electro-biology, but it has been left to the mercy of mountebanks. The passion for miracles is far from extinct, else we would not see so much vitality in the myseries of Theosophy. That passion is akin to the absorbing thirst for power to subdue the laws of Nature at will, which not unoften seizes ambitious men of science and which is represented in *Faust*. Now, electro-biology seems to promise that power. Professional conjurors who profess to be electrobiologists, like Bushell, who came to this country, show extraordinary powers—perform what might be regarded as miracles—such as leading their subjects at command, to the extent of making them forget their own identity. They are probably great mesmerists, but mesmerism itself may be intimately related to electricity. If the leading Theosophists and Spiritualists—those having the spirit of science in them—would turn their energies to this field of inquiry, they would have some worthy and fruitful occupation which might reduce to respectable Natural phenomena many of the marvels which now amuse so many and which recall to sterner observers and reasoners the line of the poet—

The sports of children satisfy the child.

We confess at one time after the Colomb revelations, we indulged the hope that if the Theosophical Society continued, it would on new lines, purged of its grosser *entourage* and its peurile pursuits. The accomplished Founder-President might certainly give the organization of his creation a new start and a rational programme understood of the Gentiles, and Philistines if you will. In that case, the Society, if not Theosophy (whatever it may mean) might count upon more general support. There would have been no lack of definite work, for want of which the Society seems to suffer. There are more things in Heaven and Earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy, and to discover these in a truly scientific spirit is no unworthy pursuit. That hope has not been realised. We must content ourselves with the labours of the *savants* in the West. The latest news from that quarter is the following:—

"A curious communication of particular interest to both sexes has just been made by M. Féré to the French Society of Biology. The doctor has discovered an electric woman! The name and address of this phenomenon are not given, probably to avoid her being got hold of by some enterprising Barnum. It appears that both her hair and body emit electric sparks. The electricity is more visible when the hair is combed. The hair then stands on an end. When she puts on her underclothing its contact with her skin first produces a crepitation, then the clothes adhere as it were to the body, and finally her movements are partly paralyzed. These phenomena are particularly observable during dry and frosty weather. The electric tension also increases under the influence of emotions—such, for example, as the effect of music, which augments the crepitation. This extraordinary creature, however, is not unique. Dr. Legué mentioned the case of a woman who during an aurora borealis was suddenly charged with electricity, which manifested itself when she passed her finger over the face of her brother; she remained electric for two months. Another instance of a similar kind is reported by Arago. In all these cases the patients are described as of sickly disposition, subject to nervous or hysterical attacks. In the Middle Ages they would have been burnt for being possessed with the devil, to-day they are tendered and petted as scientific wonders. Strange to say, the first account of an electric woman is to be found in a romance by the Brothers Goncourt."

Not in the least! Electric human beings were noticed in ancient times in Europe. They are not so rare as it is supposed. A few years back a woman was noticed in Japan with a powerful charge.

REVIEW.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR IN BENGALI.*

THE book, in our opinion, possesses great merits. We have always been advocates of Nature and reality in education, and denounced the senseless and, in the long run, useless forcing of the young mind, which prevails to such an extent. No tyranny is more cowardly and more deplorable in its consequences, than that of the school, and the worst feature of the reign of Pedagogy is the torture of grammar imposed on the lisping mind. Fancy the idea of putting that Dryasdust Bain's book in the hands of mere beginners! What a waste of energy is involved in the process on the part of these tyros of getting by heart what they can never understand. But the iron sway of schoolmasters requires lads who can at best but spell through English words, to commit to memory such big words as Orthography, Etymology, Orthocopy and so forth. How far more practical will be the method of explaining to them by easy illustrations the more important and general of the things taught by English grammar. The compiler has made this attempt to supersede the cram by real expeditious and impressive teaching. In this matter, men engaged in the practical work of education are more likely to know where the shoe pinches, and we have heard some teachers in whom we have confidence, express themselves highly of the performance. But an Indian author in this new line has little encouragement. There is the entire guild of English authors to resist his poaching on their preserves, while, amongst his own countrymen, the cramming system in vogue has too old established prescriptive claims to be easily set aside. We have gone through the book, and must say it is a genuine effort to remove the practical difficulties felt by teachers and learners in regard to English grammar, and as such, certainly deserving of more general appreciation than it has so far received. We would commend a useful work to Sir Alfred Croft's attention. It will be a good introduction to the Higher Grammar of Bain which is the text book in our Higher Schools.

PRE-BRITISH INDIA.

XXIV.

JEHANGIR.

Prince Selim ascended the throne, on his father's death, under the high-sounding title of Jehangir, or conqueror of the world. Selim displayed no qualities, to call forth the spontaneous homage and admiration of his fellow-men; and but for his subsequent connection with that accomplished and remarkable woman, Nur Jehan, who, in a great measure, controlled his bestial intemperance and those terrible outbursts of ferocity he was so prone to manifest, his life would call for no especial notice. It is Nur Jehan, who has redeemed the period of his reign from being the greatest blot in the history of India. Personally, Jehangir was neither noted for accomplishments nor prowess; he only learnt the art of publicly acting the king, but was void of kingly magnanimity, or kingly attributes. His unnatural hatred of his eldest son, Khousrou, and the treatment he subjected him to, would be sufficient to show his unworthiness to occupy a place among the true kings of the earth. In religion, Jehangir was more superstitious than devout, in fact, he might be termed irreligious, so consistent were his lapses from all that orthodox Mussulmans rank as true devotion. In one particular, however, Jehangir deserves unqualified praise, namely, for the measures he adopted for ensuring that suitors and complainants should have easy access to his presence. For this purpose, he adopted the following ingenious method—a chain was hung against a conspicuous and easily accessible part of the citadel wall, and was available to all descriptions of people, and this chain communicated with a cluster of golden bells within the emperor's own apartment, and he was apprised by their tinkling of the approach of a petitioner, without the aid of intermediate officers, who might be disposed to keep back information, if not the complainer.

When Jehangir came to the throne, he found not only that he had a great heritage but that his dominions were in a high state of tranquility. There was, however, some trouble brewing in Bengal, and a dark portentous cloud hung over the Deccan. The Rana of Oudipore also still continued in

opposition. Jehangir's first measures are commendable, as they are of a character more judicious and benevolent than might have been expected of him. Among these wise measures, was the decree which forbade the opening of bales of merchandize by his officers in authority, without the free consent of the owners, and likewise that which abolished the system, which permitted soldiers and servants of the state being quartered on private individuals. He also remitted some vexatious duties which had survived Akbar's reforms, and prohibited the barbarous practice of cutting off ears and noses by way of punishment. Notwithstanding his own notorious habits, the use of wine was strictly forbidden, while that of opium was restricted, all offenders being subject to severe punishment. But his wisest act was obeying his father's dying wishes, and confirming Akbar's old and most trusted officers, in their positions.

It is probably the best method to notice, after enumerating Jehangir's acts of wisdom, his treatment of his son, so that the lights and shadows of his character might be placed in juxtaposition. The strained relations existing between father and son at last became unbearable for the son, and the unfortunate Khousrou came to an open rupture with his father. One night, at a late hour, he fled from his father's presence and took the road to Delhi, having with him a few attendants. On the news of his son's flight being conveyed to Jehangir, he ordered a light detachment of troops to follow in pursuit, and next morning followed with all the troops he could collect.

Khousrou met a body of 300 horse, at a short distance from Agra, and, persuading them to join him, he proceeded to Delhi, and from thence to the Punjab, subsisting his troops by plundering all the way. By the time he reached the Punjab, his force amounted to above 10,000 men, who had flocked to his standard in consequence of the liberty his troopers enjoyed for the purpose of plundering. He obtained possession of Lahore through treachery, but the citadel remained in the hands of Jehangir's adherents, and he was attempting its reduction when he was informed of the near approach of the advanced guard of his father's army. To avoid being placed between two fires, he drew out of Lahore and gave battle to the royal troops, but was totally defeated, though it was only a detachment that was opposed to him. He fled towards Cabul, but was captured and brought to his father a prisoner in chains.

It happened that many of Khousrou's followers, with his principal advisers, were also taken prisoners. In his treatment of them, Jehangir displayed the natural ferocity of his temper. His orders were that seven hundred of these prisoners should be impaled, in a line leading from the gates of Lahore; and it is related that he took a pleasure in watching the long duration of their terrible agonies. It might be supposed that such a statement was an exaggeration, had we not his own relation of the circumstances, in his Memoirs, and of the critical way in which he watched such suffering. Khousrou loaded with chains was placed on an elephant, and carried down the line of the suffering wretches, while a mace-bearer called to him, with mock solemnity, to receive the salutations of his subjects. The scene is too horrible in its barbarity to permit the mind to dwell on it. Poor Khousrou died in chains.

XXV.

The affairs of the Deccan in the meanwhile had been in a state of fermentation, and were now in such a serious condition that they called for immediate and energetic action. Ahmednagar was wrested from the hands of the emperor's viceroy; and Malik Amber, who had been an Abyssinian slave, now ruled there with courage and ability, for a sovereign who was a minor. This Malik Amber felt himself so strong that he had already founded a new city, and seemed destined not only to maintain the sinking fortunes of the Nizam Shahi Government, but to raise them to splendour, for he was a most capable man, both as an administrator and military commander. He had already more than once routed the imperial troops, when he raised his reputation in the country to the highest point, by attacking, defeating, and in a subsequent pursuit nearly annihilating one division of the army Jehangir had sent against him under a most able General, Abdullah Khan. The other divisions of the army, though in the field, thought it was

* *Practical Grammar (in Bengali and English) for the use of H. E. and M. E. Schools.* Calcutta. Calcutta Library.

imprudent to face a foe flushed with success, and fearing a similar calamity to that which had overtaken their fellow soldiers, these divisions withdrew to Burhampore. Khurum, or as he is better known, Shah Jehan, the best of Jehangir's sons, was now sent to cope with Malik Amber. This young and able prince not only showed a firm front, but also had recourse to diplomacy, as a means of sowing dissensions among the chiefs of the strong confederacy. Malik Amber had succeeded in building up. He was successful in withdrawing from the confederacy, the powerful Rajah of Bijapore; and a defeat which he inflicted at this time, on Malik Amber, produced still further dissensions among the allies, which eventually compelled the redoubtable Abyssinian to sue for terms, which were granted, on his giving up Ahmednagar, and restoring the whole of the territory he had reconquered. This war had previously occupied years. Shah Jehan rejoined his father covered with glory within a twelvemonth of his marching from Ajmir. Jehangir, as a mark of his approbation, added the viceroyalty of Guzerat to the Governments previously held by that prince.

It was in the sixth year of his reign that Jehangir contracted a marriage with the captivating Nur Jehan, an event that had a marked influence on the whole of his after life. This lady was by descent a Persian, her grand-father being a native of Teheran, where he held a good position under the Government. Her father, Mirza Ghizas, in the turns of the wheel of fortune, was placed at the bottom of it, when he found it difficult to maintain his family in their native land, he therefore quitted it with them, and turned his face towards India. By the time the caravan with which he was travelling reached Candahar, he found that his means were exhausted, and himself and household reduced to penury. It was at Candahar that the "light of the world" was born. Her parents being in such abject circumstances were constrained to place the infant on the road by which the caravan would shortly after pass, hoping that some benevolent person might be induced to take the child up, and nourish

it. The child attracted the attention of a rich merchant who was of the party, he took her up, being moved with compassion, and resolved to adopt her as his own. He sought among the travellers for a nurse for the babe, and, like Moses of old, she was placed in the charge of her own mother. The merchant thus brought to know the family, became cognizant of their distress, which he relieved immediately; and finding the father and his eldest son, to be men of ability, he employed them in his own business transactions, and on reaching India, introduced them to Akbar, who gave them subordinate appointments, but father and son soon rose by their abilities to honorable employment.

When Nur Jehan grew up, her beauty and accomplishments were the theme of admiration and discourse. She attracted the notice of Jehangir, then Prince Selim, in the harem of Akbar, where her mother was a welcome visitor and was often accompanied by her daughter. Selim's manner towards the girl became so pointed, that the mother became alarmed, and sought the protection of one of the Sultanas, who, in turn, laid the matter before the emperor. Akbar took his son to task, and directed Mirza Ghizas to have his daughter married and removed from the path of the prince. She was married to a countryman, Shir Afghan Khan, and Akbar, to mark his approbation of the conduct of her parents, granted the Jaghir of Burdwan in Bengal to the young bridegroom.

It would have appeared that Selim having thus lost the object of his passion, would have forgotten her, but it was not so, for he had barely been seated a year on the throne, when he issued an order to the Viceroy of Bengal, to procure for him, the person of Nur Jehan. Shir Afghan heard of Jehangir's purpose, and loving his wife with faithful affection, and being a high-souled man, with a keen sense of honour, he determined to resist the mandate which would separate his wife from him. The first step he took was to resign his command and to leave off wearing arms, which was a sign that he was no longer in the imperial service.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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(Author of *Kabitahar*, *Bharat Kusum*.)

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1888.

{ No. 334

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE SENTIS.

LEFT were the busy quays, the street,
The alleys where the lindens meet,
The lilies on the convent pond,
The convent vanes that soared beyond.

High up the towering hill we stand,
Round us the hush of fairy land ;
Sheer down beneath our feet outlay
The town, the cape, the crescent bay ;

The sombre haze of Baden's wood,
The brimming lake's broad gleaming flood,
Bavaria's long low purple line,
The gentle inflow of the Rhine ;

And bosky Austrian headlands steep
That pushed into the rippling deep ;
While southward far swelled high o'er all
The Vorarlberg's grey battered wall.

Then on we panted, keen to gain
The goal that crowns the climber's pain ;
An opening in the pines, and lo !
The Sentis, with its cone of snow !

Across deep leagues of limpid air,
How close it looked ! how ghostly fair !
A silent vision to bring tears
Of rapture through the ebbing years.

The pink flush fades as back we go,
And cold winds from the glaciers blow.
We parted : I passed on in haste,
'Neath roaring fall and frozen waste,

Through valleys bleached with apple bloom,
By Thusis, and the gorge of gloom,
Swept sledge-borne o'er the Splugen wild
To lake-sides where the myrtle smiled ;

And breathed at last in gales of balm
Where by the blue wave dreams the palm,
And sighted, sixty miles away,
Peter's white peak in Corsica.

Yet ever with me, snow-besprent,
The phantom of the mountain went,
Lofty and sad, a giant lone,
Spell-bound upon his stony throne.

I see it (as I saw it then),
Here by the burn in Sannox glen ;
Scarce sharper showed it that clear morn,
'Mid the weird realm of alp and horn.

EXECRATION ODE.

[FROM THE BALFURIAD, A THRENODY IN THREE THROES.]

"The Coercion Act has now been for nearly three months in force, but it is only of late that Lanky-doodle Balfour has gone in for carrying out the first instalment of blundering brutality. . . . Even the imprisonment of our heroic leader, William O'Brien, has not brought what Balfour would swim in if he had a chance—blood ; for blood is all he desires."—Dr. Tanner's Speech at Kilmurry, November 6th, 1887.]

O LEAN, lackadaisical lizard,
Foul filcher of hats and of hose,
Till the comb from thy crest I have scissored,
May I ne'er breathe the balm of repose !
May the bitterest blast of the blizzard,
Thou green gosling, ferocious and fell,
Hurl thee cleft, and bereft of thy gizzard,
To the hearthstone of Hell !

O pasty-faced, pallid apostle
Of deviltry, death and deceit,
Who with calumnies coarse and colossal
Conspirest our cause to defeat ;
Blood-boltered, fanatical fossil,
In gore thou wouldst gleefully float,
Couldst thou wring like the neck of the throistle
Every Parnellite throat.

Base booby beloved of Boodle's,
False shepherd of Salisbury's flock,
Crown Prince of contemptible poodles,
Demi-devil of Satan's own stock,
O Nincompoop ! nuldest of noodles,
Fierce fiend with the fatuous face,
To the limbo of limp "lanky-doodles"
Get thee gone in disgrace.

Long lamp-lighter, lorn of thy ladder,
Vile, voluptuous ventriloquist,
Thou art making us madder and madder,
'Neath the gripe of thy finical fist.
Art thou deaf, thou detestable adder ?
Hath thy hide no susceptible spot ?
Wilt thou prick the great Parnellite bladder,
Thou saturnine Scot ?

Peace, peace ; the forked tongue of our foemen
Commands not one adequate curse,
One sufficiently savage agnomen,
To hiss o'er thy horrible hearse.
Yet may owls of uncanniest omen
Croon coronachs over thy corse,
While I prance on thy prostrate abdomen,
And howl myself hoarse.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Girl of the Period as painted by contemporary satirists, is no myth after all, if it is, as a London Correspondent reports, that the *Sporting Times* under the pet name of the "Pink 'Un" is more largely patronised by ladies than gentlemen.

THE late Raja Bishen Purgash Narain Singh, of Sursur, made over Rs. 10,000 to Government to endow his school at Ajudhia. He also built the Fyzabad dispensary. And now we are glad to observe his worthy son-in-law Babu Hari Harinder Sahai offers Rs. 5,000 towards a Female Ward for this Dispensary.

PRINCE KAMR KADR, of whom His Majesty Wajid Ali Shah was ashamed and would not permit him to come within the precincts of his Palace, has, consequent upon his recognition by Government as the eldest son of the late King of Oudh, been granted the privilege of private entrée to Government House. The irony of history could no further go.

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* draws attention to the following promotion recorded in the *London Gazette* :—

"7th Hussars.—Serjeant the Hon. Roger Archibald Percy North, from the 1st Dragoons, to be Second Lieutenant, in succession to Lieutenant G. T. Birch, transferred to the Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment)."

and adds—

"Second Lieutenant North is by no means the first scion of a noble house who has gone through the ranks to a commission in these competitive days, the Hon. R. H. Westenra having obtained his commission in 1880 in the 9th Lancers from the rank of serjeant."

THE following questions were submitted to the Attorney-General :—

"May a Barrister advise and otherwise act for the outside client, and receive a fee direct, without the intervention of a Solicitor? To what extent, if at all, is this right limited after a writ has been issued? Is there any minimum limit to the fee which a counsel may charge in non-contentious business?"

The Attorney-General answered :—

"The matters to which you refer are not governed by any written rule, but by the practice and traditions of the profession which have been recognised from time immemorial. With reference to contentious business, in my opinion, neither before nor after litigation is commenced should a Barrister act or advise without the intervention of a Solicitor. . . . As regards non-contentious business the case is, in my opinion, somewhat different. Speaking generally, there is, in my opinion, no objection to a Barrister seeing and advising a lay client without the intervention of a Solicitor upon points relating to the lay client's own personal conduct, or guidance or the management or disposition of his own affairs or transactions. As regards the fees in cases in which counsel are willing to advise a lay client on the circumstances to which I have referred, I know of no rule beyond this, that no junior should accept a fee of less than £1-3-6, and no leader less than £2-4-6."

THERE has lately been a rather disgraceful squabble between the Chief Justice and Governor of Western Australia. The latter censured the Judge for keeping, for an unduly long time, sundry petitions from prisoners praying for remission of sentence. The former asserted his right to keep these documents as long as he deemed fit. Thus an angry and bitter controversy ensued between the two magnates. The Chief Justice had the Governor's letters to him on the subject, frivolous and harrasing as he regarded them, published in the local newspapers, and the Governor replied by suspending the Chief Justice. The matter now went up, in appeal from both parties, to the Privy Council. That body took prodigious time over this urgent matter. After more than eight months' consideration it censured both parties, but directed the reinstatement of the Chief Justice. The judgment reaffirms the principle that Crown Colony Judges are irremovable except for misconduct of a moral character or connected with their judicial duties.

THE Births, Deaths, and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, comes into operation on the first day of October, 1888.—The *Gazette of India* of the 21st publishes the rules under Sections 26, 28, and 36 of the Act.

IN supersession of previous orders regarding State messages, it has now been ruled that

"(1) When it is not necessary that a reply (by post or wire) should be despatched within office hours of the same day, the message should be sent 'deferred.'

(2) When it is considered essential that a reply should be sent the same day, the message should be sent 'ordinary.'

(3) 'Urgent' messages should be used only—

(a) in cases of real emergency;

(b) in cases where the despatching officer knows that the line is for any reason blocked, and considers his message sufficiently important to take precedence of ordinary traffic.

(4) Telegrams should, except when extreme precision is important, be expressed in as few words as are consistent with clearly conveying the intended meaning; and mere auxiliary or connective words, which can obviously be filled in by the receiver, should be omitted."

THE following are the revised tour programmes of his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor :—

FIRST TOUR.			
Friday	July	27th	... Left Calcutta.
Do.	"	27th	... Arrived at Midnapore.
Saturday	"	28th	... Halt.
Sunday	"	29th	... Halt.
Monday	"	30th	... Halt.
Tuesday	"	31st	... Bankoorah.
Wednesday	August	1st	... Halt.
Thursday	"	2nd	... Halt.
Friday	"	3rd	... Raneegunge.
Saturday	"	4th	... Halt.
Sunday	"	5th	... Deoghur <i>via</i> Baidyanath.
Monday	"	6th	... Doomka.
Tuesday	"	7th	... Halt.
Wednesday	"	8th	... Halt.
Thursday	"	9th	... Sooree.
Friday	"	10th	... Halt.
Saturday	"	11th	... Halt.
Sunday	"	12th	... Return to Calcutta.

SECOND TOUR.			
Wednesday	August	15th	... Leave Calcutta.
Thursday	"	16th	... Arrive Pubna.
Friday	"	17th	... Furreedpore.
Saturday	"	18th	... Halt.
Sunday	"	19th	... Halt.
Monday	"	20th	... Dacca.
Tuesday	"	21st	... Halt.
Wednesday	"	22nd	... Halt.
Thursday	"	23rd	... Halt.
Friday	"	24th	... Leave Dacca.
Saturday	"	25th	... Mymensing.
Sunday	"	26th	... Halt.
Monday	"	27th	... Halt.
Tuesday	"	28th	... Daudkandee.
Wednesday	"	29th	... Comillah.
Thursday	"	30th	... Halt.
Friday	"	31st	... Halt.
Saturday	Sept.	1st	... Daudkandee.
Sunday	"	2nd	... Chandpore.
Monday	"	3rd	... Burrisal.
Tuesday	"	4th	... Halt.
Wednesday	"	5th	... Halt.
Thursday	"	6th	... Perozepore.
Friday	"	7th	... Halt.
Saturday	"	8th	... Khulna.
Sunday	"	9th	... Halt.
Monday	"	10th	... Jessore.
Tuesday	"	11th	... Halt.
Wednesday	"	12th	... Halt.
Thursday	"	13th	... Leave Jessore.
Friday	"	14th	... Darjeeling.

MR. MARSDEN, the Chief Town Magistrate, has recorded the following opinion in the child-wife torture case :—

"In this case, prosecutrix, Hem Coomaree Dassee, an intelligent child, states that she is eleven years of age, and that the accused Mukhan Lall Addy is her husband, Gour Mohun Addy is his brother, and Koosoom Coomaree Dassee is her mother-in-law. She says that on the 22nd June last, her mother-in-law complained of the manner in which she had cooked the food, and assaulted her several times during the day with a wooden bolt, and the child shows the Court marks of bruises, on her body. She goes on to say that at about 10 P. M., Hem Coomaree made her lie down, and her husband, Mukhan Lall Addy, tied her hands and feet, and Gour Mohun Addy gagged her; that Koosoom Coomaree Dassee brought some fire in an earthen pot, heated an iron ladle, and branded her with it on several parts of her body, and also on her face. When first burnt, the girl states that she screamed out, and that it was on this that she was gagged by Gour Mohun Addy. When the cloth was removed from her mouth, she again seems to have screamed, when the accused told her to be quiet, or they would brand her again. On the 26th June, four days after she was branded, Hem Coomaree made her escape to her brother's house, and complained of the treatment she had received, and showed the marks on her body; and on the 30th of June, she was examined by a medical man, who states that the marks are marks of burns beyond all doubt. The delay in instituting this case is explained by Hem Coomaree's brother, Gopeenath Dutt, who says that it was not intended to prosecute the accused, but Gour Mohun Addy came with a band of *latials* to take Hem Coomaree away by force, and consequently it was necessary to institute proceedings for the protection of the girl. The girl's statement as to what occurred on the night of the 22nd June is confirmed (as far as confirmation is possible in such cases) by the evidence of Bhootnath Dey, who lives opposite to the accused's house,

and Gopalchunder Dey, who went to visit him on the night in question. Both of these witnesses state that, on the night in question, they heard screams in a female voice, coming from the accused's house, and Bhoothnath states that he heard the voices of the accused, whom he has known all their lives, calling out to some one to keep quiet. I see no reason to doubt the evidence of these men. It has not been attempted to show that there was any ill-feeling between them and the accused: on the contrary, they seemed to have lived on good terms together. The most peculiar feature in this case is that, beyond the plea of 'not guilty,' recorded on behalf of each of the accused, there appears to be no defence whatever; on the contrary, the gentleman who appeared for the accused admitted that the girl, Hem Coomaree, had been ill-treated, but submitted, firstly, that the ill-treatment was not of such a serious nature as the Court seemed to consider it; and secondly, that it would be unsafe to convict on the evidence which the prosecution had adduced, and at one stage of the case, Baboo Kali Nath Mitter (the gentleman appearing for the accused) stated, in open Court, that if I was disposed to take a lenient view of the offence that had been committed, his clients were willing to plead guilty to the charge. Hem Coomaree was not cross-examined as to the occurrences on the night of the 22nd June, and the pleader for the prosecution stated that it was for this reason he did not consider it necessary to call the girl's brother as a witness, to speak to the injuries he saw on her body when she returned to his house. It was elicited in cross-examination that the girl had, on a former occasion, obtained a summons against her mother-in-law, but she had been induced to withdraw that case, on her mother-in-law promising to treat her well in future. Hem Coomaree appeared in Court with her hair cut short, which she stated had been done by her mother-in-law. The poor girl appears to have undergone systematic ill-treatment at the hands of the accused, which culminated on the 22nd June in branding her with a red-hot iron in the manner she has described. It appears to me that it would be difficult to find a more brutal and inhuman case. Here is a girl of only eleven years of age, who appears to have been not only the house drudge, and performed all the work of the house, but to have been subjected to systematic ill-treatment by the three adult members of the household, one of whom is her husband; and finally, taking advantage of her tender age and helplessness, they seize her, tie her hands and feet, and brand her with a hot iron, on the pretext apparently that she had not cooked the food entirely to their liking. I should not be doing my duty did I not inflict a severe penalty on the accused, and I consider them all equally guilty. The sentence of the Court is that each of the accused do undergo two years' rigorous imprisonment."

Served right! Long as this judgment is for our columns, its practical importance—its bearing on that subject of anxious difficulty, in India, the domestic life of Indians—impels us to reproduce it *in extenso*. For the same reason, we cannot dismiss it cavalierly. As it would be shocking to the very senses to prolong this item by piling comments on the news, we refer the reader to the leading columns.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THERE was a grand review at Krasno-Selo on the 21st before the two Emperors—of Germany and Russia. Forty thousand troops had assembled.—The Emperor William has gone over to Stockholm.

THERE is disturbance in Natal. A Capetown telegram of the 26th says:—

"Commander Grobelaar at the head of a Boer force has invaded Khama's territory and fought the natives. Mr. Sheppard, the Deputy Commissioner of the protected territories, has been ordered to proceed to the spot in order to inquire into the affair, and President Kruger has been invited also to send a delegate. The Government has directed Sir Hercules Robinson to intimate to the Transvaal Government that the Matabele, Mashuda, and Makaleka countries, as well as the northern portion of Khama's territory up to the river Zambesi, are under British influence."

MR. JAMES O'KELLY, M. P. for Roscommon, was arrested in London, on the 25th, and conducted to Dublin—for making a speech inciting to a breach of the law. He has since been released on bail.

DURING the week, the British House of Commons asserted its right of punishing its members for outrage committed outside the House. At the instance of Lord Randolph Churchill, supported by Mr. Gladstone, the House has suspended Mr. Conybeare, M. P. for Camborne, for one month—for some correspondence published in the *Star* grossly libelling the Speaker in connection with his ruling permitting the closure during a debate on the Irish Drainage Bill.

THE Bill appointing a Commission of Judges to enquire into the charges made by the *Times* against Mr. Parnell, has passed the second reading without a division. The Commission will consist of Sir James Hannen (President), Sir John Day, and Sir Montague E. Smith. Mr. Parnell denounced the Bill, stigmatising it as cowardly and un-English.

He feared that it gave the Judges authority to enquire into the whole agitation of the League instead of only into his own conduct and that of other M. P.'s. He wished the charges to be specified, and concluded by accusing Government of collusion with the *Times*. Mr. Chamberlain believed Mr. Parnell was innocent, and suggested payment by the state of the costs of the successful party.

So the Home Ruler-in-Chief has been caught in his own trap. Perhaps, the language is unsympathetic towards a patriot who, wisely or unwisely, purely or impurely, is struggling for his country's independence, or even unjust, in the present matter, but that is certainly what his opponents will say. In a weak moment, Mr. Parnell, chafing under his exposure in the *Times* case, called for a Select Committee of the House of Commons to set himself right. That was creditable to his honor; it was not the bearing of conscious guilt. But it was weak nevertheless, and strange on the part of a cool-headed politician who has all along resisted the demands on him to go to court for his vindication. It was singularly imprudent for the party chief of a minority to make what amounted to an appeal for sympathy of his enemies. Mr. Parnell of all men should have known the risk of giving them a possible opportunity of turning their majority to his prejudice. And so it has turned out. At first, the leader of the House, with ingenuousness equal to his own, referred Mr. Parnell to the courts, but later, at the instance of more astute colleagues, he offered him a Commission of Judges. Till the Government disclosed their hand, Mr. Parnell was not prepared to accept the machinery. This was virtually declining the offer with thanks. It was too late. Parliament was not to be trifled with, and he must be in for it, for better or worse. The Government saw their advantage and pursued, protests notwithstanding. Mr. Parnell's evident anxiety to get out of it only supplied an additional incentive. What was the use of that uncertain thing a large Parliamentary majority, if the utmost was not to be made out of it so long as it lasted? Hence the Bill which has been read a second time without a division. There may be a struggle yet in Committee, but the Bill is safe.

Mr. Chamberlain, as an independent ally of the Government, acted a generous part which might go somewhat to the credit of his new friends in the way of removing the impression of animus. He could well afford to avow his belief in Mr. Parnell's innocence, so far as the particular letters are concerned. His suggestion that the state should reimburse the costs of the successful party was simply just. He might have gone farther. The state should bear the whole costs. There ought to be express provision in the Bill. The novelty of the procedure in fairness requires it. It is bad enough for members of Parliament to be dragged against their will into unpleasant enquiries touching their character and prospects, if not affecting more serious interests. Surely, they ought not to be mulcted in addition. There may be reasons of state for the one, but none for the other. If Parliament thinks it necessary to enter on such an investigation, the country ought to pay for it and for all parties who may be put to any necessary expense on that account.

Mr. Parnell, in the course of his vehement denunciation, called the measure cowardly and un-English. It is not un-Irish, being very Home Ruler-like. The supporters of the Government might well retort that it was only by methods drawn from their practices that the Irish party of boycotting and intimidation and coercion could be met with any chance. That word *un-English* has a distinct meaning honorable to the English people. But it is too often loosely used in the silliest national vanity. No body of politicians would be frightened out of a deliberate step they thought necessary, by being told it was "cowardly" or "un-English." At most, these words mean base and unfair. But in political controversy, even in the British Parliament itself, specially since the Irish ascendancy of late years, language of grave import is exchanged. It was more to the purpose to insist that the charges should be specified, but that is a clever way of making the step infructuous. How could any distinct charges be formulated before the inquiry was made? Mr. Parnell might perhaps have reason to fear that the Bill gave the Judges power to inquire into the agitation of the League, but surely the state would be a gainer by a judicial inquiry into a subject of the highest importance. Probably, the Ministry have deliberately determined to utilise the opportunity offered by Mr. Parnell's own demand to have the mystery of the League unearthed. What is the harm? What have honest loyal citizens to fear? To our mind, there ought to have been a resort to such an organ long since, but Englishmen can usually act only upon set precedent and in the usual course of business. If it

were not for that, probably the Ministry would have boldly avowed that width of scope of the present inquiry of which Mr. Parnell complains. We are now only afraid that the same shrinking from the logic of the situation and indisposition to pursue legitimate objects, in a legitimate way, independent of meaningless forms and obstructive technicalities, may yet defeat the important end in view.

DR. MACKICHAN, Principal of the Free General Assembly's Institution, succeeds Sir Raymond West as Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University. The appointment has taken the public by surprise, the Scotch educationist having entered the Syndicate only a few months back and by a very narrow majority. It is admitted, however, that the Vice-Chancellor designate is a great scholar and good business man. Before Lord Reay lays down office, we expect him to give us the satisfaction of a native appointment. It would be a just recognition of the claims of the large and growing class of educated Natives. There are many on that side who would fill the honorary office with honor. The Western sky is illumined by a whole galaxy of brilliant orbs—the Mandliks, Mehtas, and Malabaris, the Telangs and Tyebjis, and at least half a dozen more. Madras too is rich enough, and more than once a native gentleman of attainments and position has there discharged with distinction the office of academic Chief. Bengal is barren to a degree. Notwithstanding our glib tongue and fatal facility of pen, we have, with almost one exception, scarcely a man who with an adequate position has given pledges of capacity to justify his selection for the two-year dignity. But poor Dr. Rajendralala Mitra has been strangely neglected for years, until now it is too late. He would have been better made Vice-Chancellor of the University for a term than created a life-long Raja. But the ways of Government are—their own.

THE Morning Post writes—

"The Madrassis are promised a sensation. Mr. White, the President of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association, has a *bête noir* in the person of Mr. J. R. Upshon, who is not single in his opinion that Mr. White is a humbug. The President has been mercilessly exposed, and finding he cannot retaliate effectively with the pen, has resolved to resort to the sword. Like General Boulanger, he hopes to rehabilitate himself in the eyes of his admirers. Like the general, he may find that it is for him to propose and for Mr. Upshon to dispose."

Except for the concluding touch of blasphemy, that is well-expressed, though it discovers the inspiration of the old Allahabad foe of President White. The feuds of the Eurasians' friends and patrons neither make White Black nor Black White. Whatever offence the venerable and devoted head of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association may have given to individual ambitions or susceptibilities, it will be news to most that the pure and noble White is a humbug. Could the force of perversity farther go? Amid endless difficulties, making allowance for all disappointments, Mr. White has done more good to the cause of the Eurasian, East Indian and poor Whites, without making war upon the poor natives, than any other man in his generation.

It is amusing to see the extreme tenderness of our contemporary for Mr. Allen, the principal proprietor of the *Pioneer*. In reproducing an extract from the *Evening News* of this city, it was careful to strike out an offensive reference to that gentleman. Not content with that service, our contemporary next morning reminds him of it, as though the object of the courtesy might by any chance overlook the matter, and then appeals to the rest of the press to do likewise. Says the new Allahabad journal :—

"We know Mr. Allen only as a generous, kindly-dispositioned gentleman."

We have not the honor of knowing the Prince of the Press in India, and have no idea how he will receive all these attentions. He may possibly blush to find his amiableness fame. Be that as it may, not many fellows will understand how it all comes about. Considering that the *Morning Post* was started to the injury of the *Pioneer*, it no doubt must strike them as queer, this sort of officious soft sawdery of the "boss" and master of the rival concern. The mystery would be a good deal cleared up, if it be the fact, as we have reason to believe, that Mr. Allen is also a large shareholder in the new concern. Mr. Allen knows his business.

THE Honorable Syud Ameer Hossein has been lucky in obtaining extension of his office as Additional Member of the Imperial Legislative Council for another term.

There is so little room in the Viceregal Chamber that we hold re-appointment a mistake, except in the case of a representative man of weight like Maharaja Jotindro Mohan Tagore or one of rare capacity for debate like the late Kristodas Pal. There are as good fish in the water as any fished up by the rather exclusive caste of Indian official fishermen, and in the public interest these ought to have the chance of being tackled and hauled up on board the 'Legislative Ark'. After that caveat on principle, we are free to concede that it is creditable to the Government of India to show their favour to a native subordinate official—belonging to the despised Uncovenanted—who, in his capacity of Senator, has shown such independence. Syud Ameer Hossein voted against all the most important official measures of Government that were brought before the Council during the last Calcutta Session. Those measures were the outcome of the deliberate Financial Policy of the Viceroy in Council, on which the members of the Supreme Executive Council might be expected to be sore, and on which indeed the Viceroy himself spoke in the Legislative Chamber with so much earnestness. It was no joke for poor Meer Ameer Hossein to say Nay to the Viceroy in the Viceroy's face. What is he—he might well argue—a mere Deputy Magistrate, glad enough to be a fixture in the capital, over the heads of so many of his brethren, to give himself such airs? As a servant of Government, he is expected, more than any outsider, to appreciate the exigencies of the State and sympathise with Government in its difficulties. As for the rest, what does he, his life passed in the administration of criminal law, understand the mysteries of Indian Finance that he should put his opinion against that of experts and pretend to judge between Government and opposition. Indeed, of opposition there was vastly little, beyond his own. There was a strange and almost ominous unanimity on the most debatable subjects which have been even the bone of fruitful contention. The representative of commerce himself supported the Income Tax. Not so the Mussulman Deputy Magistrate member. He not only voted against the Income Tax, but also against the Salt Tax. When member after member gave his sanction to the Bill which might have the effect of depriving the mute masses and dumb cattle of their modicum of the essential condiment, when not only Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee of Bengal warmly approved but also Sir Dinshaw Petit of Bombay asserted, it required some assurance in Mr. Ameer Hossein to depart from such eminent example. When the precarious tenure of his service is considered, his rashness may be rightly estimated. In another part of our paper, it will be seen how an irate Governor of a self-governing British Colony dismissed the Chief Justice on a petty difference of opinion. What is a Deputy Magistrate in India in comparison to the highest judicial dignitary in a Crown Colony? He is at the mercy of dozens of European superiors between the Viceroy and himself. He has no Privy Council to appeal to.

Of course, his independence is due to the encouragement of the Viceroy. He ventured on it in pure reliance on the justice by Government, particularly from his confidence in the liberality of Lord Dufferin. His reappointment gives the seal to that confidence. It is the most convincing proof of the Viceroy's political liberality and personal openness.

NOTHING like luck, and a lucky lady indeed is Langtry. She was to begin with, born with that supreme possession of woman—beauty. But well-favoured as she was, in person, she was still better favoured by the world. The observed of all observers, she was the admired of the rank and fashion of the day. Their leader the Prince of Wales confessed her fascination. With Mrs. Cornwallis West, she long shared the position of the Beauty of the Period. It is an enviable position. It gave her command over the highest and best, certainly introduced her and enshrined her in the very *sanctum sanctorum* of fashion, to which neither her own birth nor her husband's position could obtain her admission. Yet that position is not without its drawbacks. It is essentially unfavourable to health, moral and physical. To be a court lady—one of the leading beauties in the Prince of Wales'—is a difficult part to play consistently with honour. Not the least of its disadvantages is the drain on one's resources and substance. The wealthiest and most amply accred find the strain too much. Mrs. Langtry simply ruined her husband. But even in her loss of fortune her guardian deity stuck to her. She did not lose heart. But what is more to the point, her success at court had not lost her mind beyond redemption. She struggled for sometime to keep herself afloat, but it was in vain. Then, facing the inevitable, she set in genuine earnest to devise a method of deliverance. It seemed to lie before her.

As a fashionable lady, she was an actress. She had probably played at private theatricals before her entrance at court. There she was accustomed to a leading part on the stage within the stage of royal society. The Prince of Wales spoke highly of her acting and everybody saw in it perfection. Here, then, was a profession chalked out for her, and she had the courage to betake to it. Her success was extraordinary for an amateur, but her friends loyally contributed to it. And then, while the sensation of a leading court beauty's going to the stage was still fresh, she crossed over to America, the continent of silver mountains and the land of republican reverence for royalty and aristocracy. There her reception was characteristic—almost fabulous. Her stay was a continued triumph. Dollars poured upon her like tropical rain. In the space of a few months, she had recovered her lost ground, in the goods of the world.

That was as good as might be hoped for. But she did better. One day she took train to the West. Luck dogged her in the person of a broker who offered her in the train the purchase of a moiety of a mountain supposed to be rich in minerals. She declined the proffer, naturally enough, as not understanding the matter. Her Luck—the fellow-passenger—would take no refusal. He argued and represented and painted in glowing colours the prospects of mining the estate and its other advantages, the salubrity of the hills and their various industrial capabilities. Above all, it was going cheap. The feminine heart was touched by the last appeal, in particular. At length she showed signs of wavering. The attack was maintained. Another hundred miles and she surrendered at discretion. Before the end of her journey, Mrs. Langtry, without advice of lawyer or business-man, had become owner by purchase of a mountain. To another it might have proved the veritable mountain in labor. For Mrs. Langtry it turned out an argentine hoard. A silver mine was discovered. For a few thousand dollars Mrs. Langtry found herself among the Mackays.

THE case of MOHENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE of this city, well known for his musical accomplishments, who has been convicted at the last Sessions on a charge of forgery of Government Notes, has already been alluded to. Its general importance and especial interest in Calcutta calls for a more extended notice. For months, there had been rumours in the neighbourhood that forgery was going on in his house, but the Police seemed to be in blissful ignorance. At length, some notes presented in the market by some Cabulees were traced to him. So, armed with the necessary powers, the Police rushed into the house, and Mohendro, obese Sybarite though he was, rushed out of it, escaping by the back, by jumping into a neighbour's house. Materials of a suspicious character were found on the premises, including a quantity of forged notes. He did not however evade the warrant issued for his arrest. Under advice, he arrived in a closed conveyance at the Police Court gate for surrendering himself to the court, but being observed he was arrested on the warrant and let out on bail. The Police had also proceeded against the other male members of the family, but the Hon'ble Magistrate of the Northern Division found no case against them and properly discharged them. The High Court was then moved by the Advocate-General against the discharge, and the Crown obtained a rule why the others who had been let off should not be committed likewise. At the hearing of the rule, the Advocate-General appeared for the Crown and Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose for the four discharged. The Baboo argued against the rule being made absolute. He pointed out that there was no evidence against his clients of a criminating nature, and was even prepared to shew that there was no case to go to the Jury, the mass of evidence tendered only proving that Mohendra Nath Chatterjee had passed certain Notes alleged to be forged. Mr. Ghose, with his knowledge as a Hindoo, laid much stress on the joint family system, saying that—

"it would be extremely dangerous in this country if one member of a joint family happened to be a scapegrace, to presume that the other members of the family were criminals as well from the fact that certain suspicious articles were found on a police search in the house. This was a dangerous doctrine in a case which would go before a jury. There was absolutely nothing as evidence to connect these men with the offence except the fact that they were living in the house.

The Chief Justice.—There was a machine in use in the house, and one of the accused was an engraver. Living together as they did, they would, under the circumstances, know all that was going on in the house, and that was a strong presumption against them.

The Advocate-General.—Some of the blocks found were lying all about the rooms, and the engravings on them any one might have read.

The Chief Justice, after some further arguments on the part of Mr. Ghose, said that this was a case in which, at that stage of the proceed-

ings, all that it was necessary to say was that they thought there was sufficient evidence before the Magistrate to render it his duty to place those four persons on the trial at the Sessions, on charges under sections 472 and 475 (Criminal Procedure Code, having in possession implements for the purposes of forgery.) The Magistrate would therefore be directed to commit them for trial on the above charges.

An application for bail was refused."

The desire of the Crown lawyers to string the whole lot together was but natural and legitimate. The Advocate-General's bearing was dignified. No one knows the peculiarities of our domestic life better than Sir Gregory Paul, and we are bound to acknowledge that, in opposing them, he did not scout the objection taken in behalf of the brothers and sons.

Mr. Ameer Hossein accordingly committed the two sons and the two brothers to take their trial along with Mohendro. At the sessions, Mr. Allen defended Mohendra and Mr. Lalmohun Ghose the sons and brothers. The trial commenced on Monday the 16th and lasted four days. The jury found Mohendra alone guilty, and the Judge Mr. Justice Wilson sentenced him to six years' hard labour. In his charge to the jury, speaking of the brothers and sons, the Judge remarked

"that he did not think it likely that the jury could come to the conclusion that these prisoners were guilty of the offence of forging these notes, but it might be that they might think that there was a case against them to establish the charge of abetting the forgery, and of abetting the first prisoner in making improper use of forging implements. Practically it seemed to his Lordship that the charges against these four prisoners, if any could be sustained against them, came round to the charge of abetting in the forgery, or abetting in the use of forged notes, or else of the charge of possessing or being in the possession of forged notes and implements for forgery. The main question was how far they could be said to have been in the possession of these things, the possession of which indicated guilt. His Lordship pointed out the difference in the position of the two brothers of the accused and his two sons so far as possession of a joint family was concerned, went, and with reference to the fourth and fifth prisoners his Lordship thought it could not be said that they were in any way in possession of the house or the property in it. The case against them in his Lordship's judgment, was so slight, that though he did not feel justified in directing a withdrawal of the charges against them, still the jury would be taking a safe course in not bringing in these two men guilty.

At the conclusion of his Lordship's address the foreman of the jury intimated that the jury were anxious to have his Lordship's opinion in reference to the non-production of the three witnesses whom the prosecution had not called.

His Lordship observed that the jury must draw their own conclusions from that fact. On the one hand the prosecution were not bound to call witnesses who, they might have reason to believe, might prove hostile, and on the other hand this was a matter for fair comment on the opposite side.

The foreman said that the jury were anxious to have his Lordship's view on one point—Did the mere knowledge on the part of prisoners two to five that forgery was going on in the house, constitute the charge of abetting in the offence in addition to their taking no active part in the crime?

His Lordship remarked that on the abstract question, if prisoners two and three were in joint possession of the house with number one, and if they were conscious that forgery was going on in that house, the jury were justified in finding that they committed the crime of forgery. His Lordship was not prepared to answer this question in the same way with reference to the other two prisoners."

The end is satisfactory. All the more so after the late miscarriages. What the result would have been had Mohendro purchased the cunning and *Zid*—the methodical madness—of another advocate, is an open question.

AFTER all, we are obliged to withhold our article on the case of domestic torture just decided by the Police, in order to make room for the information touching the provision for the poor expectant Oudh Begums, which reached us this evening, when two-thirds of the paper had been printed.

WE regret to record the death of Dr. Bhagaban Chandra Rudra, the leading practitioner of orthodox European medicine in the metropolis. He had a brilliant academical career. He not only passed with distinction through the Medical College, but, what was most extraordinary, maintained parallel courses of study, in arts and in medicine, and graduated in the former during his medical term. Leaving College, he established himself, in town, and soon rose to the highest practice. But he overworked himself, without giving himself any change of scene or climate. The death of his wife completed his ruin. He alienated his family, estranged his friends and abandoned or lost much of his practice, and finally fell into diabetes. That ended in carbuncle, which ended with life. He expired at 4 O'clock this afternoon, at the early age of 38. Though brought up in the old practice, he was none of the medical bigots of old, but open to light from all quarters. He observed the newer methods, and cultivated the society of Homœopaths and professors of Sanskrit medicine.

He was associated with Kaviraj Abinash Chundra in the conduct of the latter's Bengali medical periodical giving a view of the different indigenous and foreign systems.

IN our issue of the 7th July, we commented on the new rules regarding Benches of Magistrates. The Honorary Magistrates themselves have now taken up the question. They met at the Town Hall on Wednesday the 25th, under the presidency of old Mr. Manickjee Rustomjee, the business of the evening being introduced by Mr. S. E. J. Clarke of the Chamber of Commerce. They passed some resolutions and fixed upon a Committee to give shape to their objections to the rules in a representation to the local Government. The Honorary Magistrates sometimes exhibit a weakness on the Bench which is lamentable, and the open association of a strong man—not a Magistrate—will only heighten the contempt of the public for the Magistrate. Mr. Marsden has been guided no doubt by the best of motives, but we are afraid he has taken the wrong way to remedy the evil. The true course would be to weed the great Unpaid.

AFTER the interval of some years, Raja Doorga Charan Law has again been invited to the Viceroy's Legislative Council. He steps into the place of Raja Peary Mohan Mookerjee, who goes out by lapse. Raja Doorga Charan is a quiet gentleman, who has made a princely fortune in prudent mercantile pursuits and lucky speculation, and is besides being a great fund-holder and owner of metropolitan house property, a large Zemindar. He might certainly give Government valuable information on subjects of his life-long familiarity. How badly Government needs cultivating such members of the community, was disclosed in the last Calcutta season, in connection with the Bills in Finance in Council.

We may take this opportunity of correcting a double mistake committed by a correspondent, touching the Raja's last connection with the legislature. He was promptly taken to task by another valued friend. We intended to have added our own testimony in support, but forgot to do so. It did not matter, though. Now we are speaking of the Raja, we are glad to say a word. The first correspondent, in attacking the Raja on the ground of his having supported the Ilbert Bill, evidently meant that he opposed the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill which essayed to confer on native Magistrates power of trying accused Europeans. The Raja did no such thing. At the early stage of the Bill, before the European community responded to Lord Ripon's virtual invitation to opposition, he, in brief terms, gave his support to the Government measure. That was all. That, at any rate, does not furnish matter for reproach against him by our young patriots.

HAVING taken so much interest in the cause of Jain Law for the Jains, we have much pleasure in laying before our readers, in another part of this paper, authoritative dicta in that Law drawn from original sources—old MSS. of Jain legists and commentators—and translated by the most competent Jain scholar in Bengal. So many cases are cropping up in these days in the Courts between members of the commercial and thrifty community of the Jain Sect, that the publication cannot but be welcome to our numerous readers in the profession of the law and among judicial officers. Hence we do not grudge the large space taken up.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1888.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMISSION.

THE Report of the Finance Committee, with its continuation by the Finance Commissioner, has been for some time before us. We have looked into it, and we must say that it will not be the Committee's fault if adequate success does not reward its labors. The manner in which the work has been done by the Committee cannot but be regarded with satisfaction by the Government of India. The instructions of the Government to the Committee left no room for mistake as to the urgent need for effective retrenchment of expenditure, and the earnest desire felt by the Government that the work should be done in

a thorough-going manner. On the part of the Committee there appears to have been the fullest sympathy with their instructions. The work is no doubt essentially of an ungracious character, but "the circumstances, in which the Government now finds itself placed, compel it to examine with renewed and anxious attention the possibilities of such an effective decrease in its expenditure as shall, in a sensible degree, contribute to relieve it of the financial embarrassments with which it is threatened." Such is the earnest tenor of the Government Resolution appointing the Committee, and the Committee's report makes it also clear that they have given a hearty response to their orders.

Notwithstanding, however, the best efforts of the Committee to discharge their duty in a spirit of full sympathy and co-operation with the Government of India, it is doubtful whether the net result of those efforts, is at all commensurate with the exigencies of the case. The work, as we have said, is essentially of an ungracious character. The most powerful vested interests are naturally arrayed against it. It is scarcely any wonder, therefore, that, at the very threshold of their work, the Committee met with a check. The Resolution of the Government appointing the Committee directed them "to examine thoroughly the subject of the home charges" with especial regard "to the division of the military charges between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India," and to "advise the Government of India whether the present distribution of these charges seems to call for revision, and, if so, what are their practical recommendations on the subject." The Government of India had already, however, excluded the cost of the India Council and India Office from the Committee's purview, but this limitation was apparently not enough for the Secretary of State. That supreme authority imposed further limitations, and the home charges were likewise excluded from the scope of the Committee's enquiries. To this restriction, let us add the original restrictions imposed under orders of the Government of India itself, and the field of the Committee's enquiries will appear small enough. They were debarred from taking notice of expenditure sanctioned by the Secretary of State, which, explained more specifically afterwards, meant that they were "not empowered to propose any change in the organic structure of the Administration;" and that "an enquiry into the status of the Governors of Madras and Bombay, the general question of the salaries of the Civil Service, and questions relating to the system of issuing Government loans and to concessions or guarantees given to Railway Companies, were beyond the field of their enquiries."

As the Committee in their report observe, these orders placed considerable restrictions on their functions. But this was not the whole drawback. In the procedure adopted by them, they seem to have been often thwarted by several of the Departments which were consulted in course of their operations, or at any rate, they do not seem to have received the co-operation and help without which such operations must more or less be ineffective. From the very nature of the work of a Committee for the reduction of established expenditure, it is inevitable that they can only proceed upon information regarding that expenditure as well as the routine and distribution of work in practice supplied by the Departments. This is the only possible procedure, and this was adopted. Circulars were addressed to the various Governments and the subordinate Departments of Government,

calling for the necessary information, but they do not appear to have in all cases elicited a prompt response. The Military authorities in some cases appear to have treated the requisitions of the Committee with indifference, and the Committee had not received replies from some of the Departments up to the time of their report. This may be taken as an indication of the kind of scant support which the Committee must generally have met with in the prosecution of their enquiry, and it is but fair to infer that this circumstance has necessarily had its effect upon the character of their work.

To determine the net value of the work of the Committee, we should further remember that the recommendations for retrenchment of expenditure, which the Committee, working within a circumscribed sphere, and under all their restrictions and disadvantages, have at last been able to submit for the consideration of the Government, make no claim to finality. They are but the Committee's recommendations, which the Government of India can only carry out after another series of more or less protracted consultations with the Subordinate Governments, Administrations, Departments and other authorities. These are the authorities affected by the Committee's recommendations, and we may well expect they will offer a stout resistance to their being accepted. These consultations have already begun, and we have already had some specimens of the fighting which the retrenchment scheme of the Finance Committee must encounter all along the line. The remnant of economies which may survive the inevitable havoc of such a protracted and stubborn struggle will, for aught we know, be disappointment itself, and another illustration of the inherent futility of the economist's task in a prodigal household.

The most tangible results of the Committee's enquiries, however, are to be found in their revision of the Provincial Contracts. The total of the savings suggested by them under this head amounts to about seventy lacs of rupees, which, with the unavoidable frittering away of the amount which may take place under a process of mutual resistance between the Imperial and the Local Governments, may still stand at half a crore. The other economies recommended in various branches of the Provincial expenditure, and in the Imperial and Miscellaneous Departments bring up the whole of the savings suggested by the Committee to Rs. 1,28,47,000. There is no knowing, however, how much of this will be an actual relief to the Imperial Treasury. The Finance Commissioner's report with other subsidiary matters will be noticed hereafter.

THE LATE TORTURE CASE IN THE CALCUTTA POLICE.

OUR remarks have, we see, not gone for nothing. We are now glad to congratulate the readers of the *Morning Post* on the improvement that is visible in it of late. It was rather a canny concern. But it was from the start an interesting journal, varied in information. At most, however,

It rivalled all but Allen's print below.

There was not only obvious disparity between resources—the cash and connections—of the two concerns, but there was in the new venture a deficiency of literary talent rendered all the more glaring by weakness in the typographic supervision. Having in good part noticed the defect, we are bound to acknowledge the rectification. A change has come

over our contemporary. There is a visible accession of literary power. The paper is no longer disfigured by solecisms, and it is actually smart. We have always observed our Anglo-Indian contemporaries pay more attention to our neighbour of the *Indian Mirror's* miseries and wrath than we natives care, or can afford, to do. The *Post* is no exception. And for an obvious reason. No other paper offers such a handle for ridicule of the natives and the native press in particular. Our native contemporary, among his many things, has a lamentable sense of proportion, which is easily utilisable for fun. So we find that the Allahabad writer has been counting the number and measuring the quantity of our neighbour's buccubrations on a purely local subject. We had no idea that the late Torture case has been such a torture to our neighbour, as is disclosed in the following notice in the *Morning Post* :—

"The *Indian Mirror* having dissected the torture case in about a dozen instalments of three columns apiece comes to the conclusion that Mr. Lambert should be transferred, Dr. Mackenzie retired, Inspector Boyd (who has resigned) dismissed, and that everybody belonging to the thana in which the cruelty is alleged to have taken place should be punished severely. It is not suggested that the jury who acquitted the accused should be hanged, drawn and quartered, but that may come."

That is not bad of its kind. We are bound, however, to warn the reader against the sinister suggestion conveyed in the paragraph on the subject which has driven our susceptible neighbour to fits. The *Mirror* may have made too much of the matter. That is at most a mistake in the method of treatment—a mere question of taste. Surely, no one will seriously question the importance of the subject-matter. And dare the *Post* still talk of the torture in the Park Street Police station as a "cruelty alleged to have taken place." Even the stupid jury whom the *Post* would take under its protection, had no doubt of the occurrence. They found the fact of torture and only in their inscrutable sapience thought it may have been committed at the station by some "interlopers"—possibly Mr. Hyde, the master of the boy, to spite the poor inoffensive lambs of Lambert. And is the press so very unreasonable in pressing for adequate departmental punishment on the Police for such a scandalous abuse of office? What would our Allahabad contemporary have? Mr. Lambert made Inspector-General of Police and his myrmidons equally well provided, according to degree, as the result of the late revelations? It can scarcely be believed that the head of the metropolitan Force did not know of the practice obtaining in the Police. If that be seriously contended, it argues neglect and inefficiency in the head.

To our unofficial mind, the *Mirror* is singularly—not to say, strangely—moderate in its demands. It calls for the dismissal of only Boyd, the chief actor in the base business. If Boyd has resigned, so much the better for the *Mirror* and the public into the bargain. The *Mirror* is only justified by the resignation of the man responsible for what took place at his station, presumably at his dictation. Is it pretended that Boyd has "chucked up" his snug appointment in a huff? Boyd himself complains of being turned out—forced to resign. If he has not been formally dismissed, that was out of that tenderness for Europeans which is such a discreditable feature of this administration of India by Europeans alone. Personally, we have no disposition to make a grievance of this quiet shunting of the man. According to all precedents, it was Boyd's due. When high and mighty culprits are so tenderly dealt with, it were aggravation of the turpitude of partiality to make an example of a poor thing like Boyd and ease the disturbed

conscience of administration by affecting undue scorn and indignation and heap coals on the luckless Police subaltern. The true object of moral passion is not the vulgar herd of subordinate limbs of the state machinery, but the opulent and well-educated magnates who cannot resist temptation and descend to falsehood and fraud, peculation and injustice, tyranny and torture. Not the Boyds but the Beauforts, Bucklands and Beameses, the Kirkwoods, Corderys and Crawfords, the Metcalfes and Meades, the thieves and adulterers and shady gentlemen of sorts in the higher Services whose name is legion. Let the Boyds depart in peace: we do not care. There is no danger in mercy to the poor uneducated. But if Government have any capacity for strict and passionate justice, let it be reserved for those who know better and do wrong, who can afford to be honest and yet fail in common decency. These are the legitimate subjects for passionate justice. Here, in this very case, as a subject of departmental inquiry, a greater responsibility attaches, in our mind, to the Chief of the Police than to the local station subordinate. And the *Indian Mirror* fails in correctly apportioning the dues between the two. Our contemporary is unconsciously guilty of the same tenderness towards the Brahmans of officocracy which we have been deprecating. It weakly lends itself to the very "dodge" of Bureaucracy of covering with protection from public rage an officer who has compromised himself by sending him to a safe distance for a time—to be received back with open arms after a time, when the short memory of the public has been exhausted on the subject and newer matters have absorbed the attention of the country. What is a transfer? Is it a punishment necessarily? Are not officials continually crying for transfers to their dear friends and loving patrons in the Secretariat?

PROVISION FOR THE EX-KING OF OUDH'S SERAGLIO.

We are at length enabled to lay before our reader authentic and precise information on the subject of the provision for the Seraglio of the late ex-King of Oudh. So many souls are interested in the subject, so many poor helpless beings are looking forward, in trembling hope and anxiety, to the justice of the British Government, that it really gives us satisfaction to be able to tell them that their cases have been considered and their stipends fixed. The subject is difficult, and the necessity of considering the claims of the entire body of Purda inmates of the vast Palace at Garden Reach caused delay. The women-folk of the late King are over two hundred strong, and they have been classed under 8 heads, according to their rank, and allowances. Between the 209 ladies, (including a discarded Begum,) under the several heads, an aggregate monthly disbursement of Rs. 11,049 has been sanctioned, as follows:—

Class A,	among	8 Begums,	...	Rs. 1,100	0	0
" B,	"	16 "	...	2,010	0	0
" C,	"	8 "	...	870	0	0
" D,	"	7 "	...	441	0	0
" E,	"	40 "	...	2,273	0	0
" F,	"	129 "	...	3,740	0	0
" G,	"	26 "	...	390	0	0
" H,	"	14 "	...	210	0	0
Discarded Begum	...	...	...	15	0	0
				11,049	0	0

We give the distribution under the first three classes:—

Class A.			
Nawab Fakhr Mehal Sahiba	...	200	0 0
" Khakan Mehal Sahiba	...	200	0 0

Nawab Ulfat Mehal Sahiba	...	200	0 0
" Mahbuba Mehal Sahiba	...	150	0 0
" Nazuk Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
" Mansur Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
" Mehar Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
" Bismillah Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
Class B.			
Nawab Dil Agra Mehal Sahiba	...	200	0 0
" Yadgar Mehal Sahiba	...	200	0 0
" Jehan Panah Mehal Sahiba	...	200	0 0
" Sadar Mehal Sahiba	...	200	0 0
" Mukhtar Mehal Sahiba	...	150	0 0
" Benazir Mehal Sahiba	...	130	0 0
" Omda Mehal Sahiba	...	130	0 0
" Saghir Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
" Golandam Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
" Kaisar Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
" Hazrat Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
" Mubarak Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
" Dilabad Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
" Amir Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
" Zohra Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
" Shah Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
Class C.			
Malka-i-Takht Mumtaz Mehal Sahiba	...	130	0 0
Nawab Sinobar Mehal Sahiba	...	130	0 0
" Aish Mehal Sahiba	...	130	0 0
" Nur Afroz Mehal Sahiba	...	130	0 0
" Khush Khesal Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
" Humayun Mehal Sahiba	...	75	0 0
Mulka-i-Shah Nawab Mehr Afroz Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0
Mulka-i-Alam Nawab Mah Afroz Mehal Sahiba	...	100	0 0

Under the terms of the Foreign Office letter to the Agent, Governor-General, No. 2051-1 of the 28th May last, Nawab Fakhr Mehal only gets the additional privilege of a house to live in—the Khosro Manzil.

PRIVILEGE OF LAWYERS.

Exclusion of Mooktears.

I know you are always ready to wield your powerful pen on behalf of the really aggrieved. I send you the following therefore and hope that you will draw the attention of the Government for its remedy. Lord Dufferin will, before he leaves India, surely do an act of justice to an important section of the society.

We muktears as a class suffer very much from an anomaly in the law which ought at once to be removed. The law on the subject of privileged communication is very imperfect. Section 126 of the Evidence Act (1 of 1871) provides: "No barrister, attorney, pleader, or vakeel, shall at any time be permitted unless with his client's express consent, to disclose any communication made to him in the course and for the purpose of his employment as such barrister, pleader, attorney or vakeel by or on behalf of his client, or to state the contents or condition of any document with which he has become acquainted in the course and for the purpose of his professional employment or to disclose any advice given by him to his client in the course and for the purpose of such employment." There is a proviso attached that this protection may not be taken advantage of for the furtherance of any illegal purpose or for concealing a crime or fraud. And by an explanation the obligation of the legal practitioners is made to continue after their employment has ceased. That such a provision is wholesome, regard being had to the interest of clients, particularly those who are accused of any offence, goes without saying. But the legislature for reasons best known to itself has deprived the muktears of its benefit, though nine-tenths of the people who resort to Courts of law, employ them. In all criminal Courts in the Mofussil, the Muktear, as a rule, is employed either to prosecute or defend a case, and even where the services of a barrister, pleader, attorney or vakeel are in requisition, it is to the muktear that the client first goes for advice. Now, under the present state of the law, the position of a muktear in the witness box—of course when he is retained by one party and is cited as a witness by the adverse one—is very critical. There may be facts communicated to him which when disclosed would go very much against his client. But there is no protection for him as the big folks have. He must either perjure himself or ruin the man who has paid him to advocate his cause and protect his interests. There had been, some time ago, a case here, in which a man was incarcerated for 3 months by the evidence of his muktear—the only evidence against him.

There is no earthly reason why this anomaly should exist. A ventilation of the subject in the *Reis and Rayyet* is sure to open the eyes of the legislators.

Tumlook.

WOMESH CHUNDER CHATTERJEA.

Baboo Womesh Chunder draws attention to a provision of the Evidence Act affecting the most numerous class of legal practitioners, and hits a real flaw in the law. We hope the subject will be taken up by the press.—ED. R. & R.

THE JAIN VYAVASTHA.

Questions answered by Sri Bala Chandra Gani Mandalacharya of Benares, Pandit Chaman Lal of Agra, Pandit Sibjilal Dharmadhiksha of Jeypur, and Pandit Raya Chandra Dharmadhikari of Azimgunge.

Q. I. Is the Svetambara Sect of Jains governed by Hindu law? If not, what are the differences between Hindu and Jain laws as regards inheritance and succession to property?

A. I. Neither the Svetambara nor Digambara sect of Jains is subject to the Institutes of Menu or Mitaxara, and there is much difference in their laws regarding succession and inheritance of sons and others. For while Menu and Mitaxara acknowledge the felicity of an unmarried virgin-born offspring, and those begotten upon twice married women, and their admissibility to a share of the inheritance, they are viewed as *kundas* and *golakas* or bastards and *nullius filii* by the Jains, and are entitled to no share, except getting their maintenance and clothing. As to the right of inheritance, the wife becomes the mistress of her husband's property, and in her absence the son, in whose absence the brother and then the brother's wife, and afterwards their sons. In default of these the *sapinda* (or one offering the funeral cake to the same ancestors), or a cousin to the seventh generation. In default of such the daughter and then her son, and in privation of them a *bandhu* or a cousin to the fourteenth degree of lineage. In want of these a *gotragen* and lastly one of the same tribe. In privation of all these the king employs (the wealth) in religious acts, as repairing of decayed temples and dedication of others. Thus it is ordained in the *Jin-sanhita* (Sanskrit) folium 30, stanzas 50 and 51.

1. "The wife, son, brother's sons, the *sapinda*, and then the daughter and her son, and then the *bandhu*, a *gotragen*, and one of the same race, are verily the owners of the property one after the other." (50) 2. "In want of these the ruler of the people employs (the wealth) in religious acts; and this is the order (of succession) both for one having or not having a son in all races (of men)." (51) So says the *Indra-nandi-Sanhita* (Prakrit) folium 13, stanzas 36 and 37. 3. "Whatever heirs there may be, the wife is the first, and then verily the son; next (to them) the brothers, and afterwards the daughter is acknowledged (as such). Stanza 36. 4. "After her a *sapinda*, and after him his accomplished daughter, and then the daughter's son; and next some *bandhu*, *gotragen*, or homogen of the tribe (becomes) owner of the property." Ibid 37. So also in the *Arban-niti* (Sanskrit) folia 27 and 28, stanzas 73 and 74. 5. "The wife and the son, brother's son and a *sapinda*, and (then) the daughter's sons, (next) the son of a *bandhu* or of the same *gotra*, becomes the alternate owner of the *sua* wealth." Stanza 73. 6. "In want of these the tribesmen, and in default of them the lord of the land, should make use of that wealth, by its employment in the paths of virtue." 74. So likewise says the *Trivarnachara* (Sanskrit) fol. 9 stanzas 53 and 54. 7. "The wife, the son, brother, or his daughter; a *sapinda* or his daughter and her son; a good relation, *gotragen* and a kinsman, are successive owners of the dead man's property." (53) 8. "In default of these, some one of the same tribe, should by order of the ruler, invest the dead man's property to religious purposes, or the ruler himself (do the same)." (54). From all these passages it is evident that the wife is the first heir (of the dead) contrary to the provisions of the Mitaxara.

Q. II. Does the widow of a deceased person represent her deceased husband in succession to collaterals?

A. II. After demise of the husband and his eldest son, the wife is empowered to take possession of the moveable and immovable properties in succession to her *devars* (leviri) husband's brothers and collaterals. Such is the saying of *Gotama* (*Godama*) himself cited in the *Jin-sanhita* fol. 54. 1. "An excellent wife inherits her husband's property, and has all the authority like the husband, whether there be a son *in esse* or *non esse*. So says the *Arban-niti*. (Sanskrit) fol. 27, stanzas 52 and 53. 2. "The husband being depraved, missing, or insane or mad, or an erratic ascetic, or dead, it is his excellent wife that becomes mistress of his entire property (in toto)." (52). 3. "The eldest wife who is well born and behaves well, and is able to support the family, becomes owner of the property in the manner of her husband, whether she has a son or not." (53). So also says the *Indra-nandi Sanhita* (Prakrit) fol. 12, stanza 16. 4. "The wife verily becomes the prime premier of her husband's divided and undivided estates, upon his being missing or dead or laid up by rheumatism or

other disease, or becoming mad or insane." (16). The *Trivarnachara* says to the same effect. (Sanskrit) fol 16, st. 20 and 21. 5. "The wife becomes mistress of the property whether divided or otherwise, upon her husband's being missing or dead, or growing an idiot by bile and flatulence." (20). 6. "The eldest widow takes possession of the fields, dwelling house and corn, and of the biped and quadruped animals (of her husband), and supports her family and relatives therewith." (21).

Q. III. Does the widow succeed to the entire estate of her husband, whether ancestral or self-acquired, which he would have taken if alive although the same may not have actually vested in him during his life time; and notwithstanding that the deceased may have left sons and other male issues him surviving; and is she entitled so to succeed in preference to such sons and other male issue; if not fully, to what extent?

A. III. If the deceased has left a son or other male issue (behind him), still the widow is entitled to take possession of all properties which the husband has a rightful title to during his life time. So it is said in the *Vribad-Arban-niti*. (Prakrit), folium 31, page 2. 1. "On the husband's demise, the wife verily becomes mistress of his property; and whether there be a son or not, it is the widow (that becomes so)." There are many other texts and passages to the same effect.

Q. IV. According to the customs of the Svetambara Sect of Jains, do the sons or other male issue (if any) of the deceased, succeed after death of the widow to the estate, or his wife and others?

A. IV. The son of one's body must be master of the whole property after demise of his mother, and in the case of an adopted son he must be so likewise, should he have been adopted according to the law of the Jains, and the preliminary sacred rites inculcated therein. If not, he shall have nothing. So it is said in the *Jin-sanhita* on the subject of Adoption. (Sanskrit) folium 52, st 64. "A man becomes a father when he is regarded by five other men as such, and no man after demise of his own son can become a father by the mere verbal promise of another (to give him a son for adoption)."

Q. V. What persons can be adopted, and what sorts of adoption are to be deemed legal and valid?

A. V. First of all a brother's son, and next to him a relation, *i. e.*, a boy to the seventh degree of lineage; after that a daughter's son, and then the son of a *bandhu* relative. In want of these a boy of the same *gotra*, in default of which a *devar* (levir) or husband's brother under the age of seven years. An adoption made in this way becomes valid. So says the *Arban-niti*. (Sanskrit) folium 27. Stanzas 54 to 64. 1. "First a brother's son, in want of whom the son of a relative (is to be adopted) whether he has received his purifications or not; and in want of these a daughter's son is taken (in adoption)." (54). 2. "In want of these to take the son of a *bandhu* relative, in lieu thereof a boy born of the same *gotra* or family may be taken, in default whereof to take the son of a brother of the husband, who may be a minor, and under seven years of age." (55). 3. "A widow having no son of her body, after taking (a boy as above) according to the rites of adoption, may place him in the concerns of her husband with the testimony of witnessess." (56.) The following are the rules of adoption. 4. "When a childless man or woman, takes an adopted son, he or she is then to take a writing from the parents &c., of the boy with testimony of witnessess." (58.) 5. "He is then to get it sealed by the ruling officer of the State, and signed by his relatives and kinsmen, whom he should courteously invite for the purpose." (59.) The ceremonies connected with the custom of adoption are described below: 6. "Then visit the Jaina temple with music and benedictory anthems of *avidua* or unwidowed women, and then make the sign *svastica*—cross emblematical of prosperity in the presence of Jina." (60.) 7. "Let him as he may, give gifts to the *gurus* or spiritual guides, and after paying his obeisance and presents, let him return to his abode." (61.) 8. "Having returned (home), let him perform the ceremony of child-birth by his household priest, whereby the people may say that he has begot a son." (62.) 9. "Then should betel-leaves and wood apples be distributed to the assembled men, and the wife pay her respects to her father and mother in law and all others, and present them with cloths and ornaments." (63.) 10. "By this he (the adopted son) gets his title to the shop, lands, dwelling house, and public offices like himself (or the adoptive father)." (64.) One adopted in this manner becomes an heir like the son of the body; mere words cannot make him so, as it is already shewn from the *Jin-Sanhita* on the subject of adoption.

Q. VI. Does the observance or non-observance of any particular ceremonies such as tonsure, &c., entitle an adopted son to succeed to the estates of both his natural and adoptive fathers?

A. VI. The Jain religion enjoins the ceremony of tonsure, but its observance is of no great efficacy, nor its neglect of any prejudice in cases of adoption. It is essential however on the part of the adoptive father to observe the ceremonies of child-birth and naming the boy anew, as shewn in our answer to the fifth question above.

Q. VII. Is an adopted son entitled in any case by the Jain law to succeed to both the estates left by his natural as well as adoptive

Holloway's Pills and Ointment are remedies which should invariably be taken by travellers in search of health, pleasure or business. Many deleterious influences are constantly at work in foreign climes, tending to deteriorate the health; these and the altered conditions of life will entail on those who travel the necessity of carefully attending to early symptoms of disease, and they will find the use of these remedies to be highly necessary, the action of the Pills being purifying and strengthening and of great service in cases of fever, ague, and all inflammatory diseases, whilst the Ointment is a sovereign cure in cases of piles, bad legs, bad breasts, wounds and ulcers. Holloway's remedies do not deteriorate by change of climate.

fathers, and to do so during the existence of other collateral heirs of both these fathers in the manner of Dnyamushayana of Hindu law?

A. VII. The adopted son according to Jain law, is entitled to succeed to the estates left by both his fathers, during the existence of other collateral heirs who are not entitled to their succession. So it is said in the *Niti samuchchaya*. (Sanskrit) fol. 1, stanza 28. 1. "An adopted son of gentle manners, is entitled to succeed also his former (or natural) father leaving no other heir behind him." So also in the *Darma-rabaya* (Sanskrit.) 2. "The adopted son is entitled to get the wealth of his former (natural) parents and others should he be obedient to them."

Q. VIII. What right has the daughter-in-law after demise of her husband and father-in-law, and during the life time of the mother-in-law to the self-acquired property of her husband, as also to his ancestral estates?

A. VIII. A widowed daughter-in-law has no right whatever to the self-acquired or ancestral property of her husband, as long as her mother-in-law is alive except to her *Stri-dhan* only. So it is said on the subject of self-acquired property. In the *Bhadra-babu-sanbita*. (Sanskrit) folium 38, stanzas 122 and 123. 1. "When the husband's property is reposed in her hands by her father and mother-in-law, she cannot get the same unless that is given her by her husband." (122.) Again says the same with regard to her want of power for adoption. 2. "The widow can get a son, if she take (adopt) him by order of her (mother-in-law) and one born from the same family younger than herself, and possess of all good signs." (123.)

Q. IX. Is the widowed daughter-in-law authorised to take an adopted son during the lifetime of her mother-in-law? And if she has taken one can he take possession of his (deceased) father's property as also of his ancestral hereditaments?

A. IX. The widow (daughter-in-law) is not authorised to adopt a son without the permission of her mother-in-law; because her husband himself having had no power of adoption or expending any thing during the lifetime of his mother, how can the wife of her son be enabled to do the like? So it is written in the *Arban-niti* (Sanskrit) folium 30, stanzas 107 and 108. 1. "When the father-in-law leaves a property, the mother-in-law or the son's wife being alive, she cannot get possession thereof except (receiving) her maintenance and raiments (therefrom)." (108). 2. "Adoption and other acts are all to be made conformably to the will of the mother-in-law, because she is always to be regarded as a mother by the son's wife." (108). So also in the *Bhadra-babu-sanbita* (Sanskrit) folium 36, stanza 115. 3. "Let the wife of the childless son take possession of his property; but she being dead, his (the son's) mother is to take the same (in her hands)." (115). So in the *Arban-niti* (Sanskrit) folium 31, stanza 110. 4. "Upon the death of a childless son, his (the son's) wife takes that property, and she being dead, her mother-in-law becomes mistress of her property." (110). Again in the *Indra-nandi-sanbita* (Prakrit) folium 24, stanza 5. "The grandson may take his paternal property as his own earning, but the taking of his ancestral property is made at the will of the mother."

Q. X. Of two brothers one became an adopted son (to one), and lost both his adoptive parents after some time. He then called his brother for the management of his estate, who for a long time served under him. Hereupon he made a gift of his (adoptive) father's estate to the said brother, who after receipt thereof died childless. His wife adopted a son and died, followed by the death of her mother-in-law also.

Can this adopted son have that property during the existence of the other brother, or his wife or their sons?

A. X. Neither one's begotten or adopted son has any power to give away any part of the property without consent of his wife, son and brothers. Should he make a donation and it come to be known, then the wife and sons shall get it back (from the donee). And should the widow of her own accord have taken an adopted son without a written order from her husband or mother-in-law, it must be invalid, as she cannot have the power of adoption during the lifetime of the (deceased's) brother, his wife, and their sons. So says the *Arban-niti* (Sanskrit) folium 30, stanza 95. 1. "No one has the power of making an endowment of any ancestral property, without asking his own wife, sons and brothers' (permission) to it." (95). So in the *Jin-sanbita* (Sanskrit) folium 50, Stanzas 90---96. 2. "When a childless man intends to give anything out of his property to his sister, daughter or to her sons, or to the relatives of his own mother;" (90.) 3. "Whether it be from his divided or undivided property, his brothers should oppose it with all their fury." (91.) 4. "A man having his brothers and their sons alive, is not enabled to give a farthing from his estate, except in acts of virtue." (92.) 5. "One having none of the said relatives, is still to be prevented by his wife from his wilful gift of anything either in the paths of virtue or vice." (93.) 6. "A man having a brother residing in a distant country, and giving in charity any land or livelihood to any of the said persons, with a written and well attested deed for such gift," (94.) 7. "The brother after returning there, and learning from others of such gift, shall get it back from the donee." (95.) 8. "Whatever gift is made by one without consent of his brother and his sons, it must be invalid, although it was given with a written and attested deed (to anybody)." (96.)

Q. XI. A man after demise of his own begotten son, leaves a written order with his wife to take an adopted son, and also gives authority to his deceased son's widow to adopt, and dies leaving the widow and his widowed daughter-in-law him surviving.

The widow (mother-in-law) took no adopted son, but the daughter-in-law adopts a son during the life time of the said deceased's widow, and then dies.

Is such adoption (by the daughter-in-law) valid and would it be made effectual, if the widow concurred in the adoption and recognized it?

To whom would the property go on the demise of the widow?

A. XI. The widow acted contrary to the written order and intention of the donee by not adopting a son to herself. So likewise did the widow of the deceased son, by her adopting one in disregard of the rules of Jain law. This therefore is invalid, because the widow of the deceased son had no authority whatever during the life time of her mother-in-law, which has been shewn from passages of the *sastras* in our answer to the ninth question. Should the mother-in-law also have concurred in this, yet it cannot be valid without a written document of hers to the same effect, and should there exist any writing of her, still it is invalid for its being contrary to the written order of the donor. From all these reasons such adoption is invalid. Now upon the demise of the mother-in-law, the property of the deceased should come to the possession of the deceased's brother, or that brother's wife and sons. This will be found to be conformable to the law of succession in the Jain *sastras* as has been fully shewn in answer to the first question.

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Sayed Ashrafuddin Ahmed, Secy. to the National Mahomedan Association, Hooghly	10
Maharaja Girija Nath Roy Bahadoor of Dinajpore	500
Baboo Bejoykissen Mookerjee	50
Total	60,607

Further subscriptions are invited, and will be duly acknowledged in the papers.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some
years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder
Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*
(*Prince and Peasant*), and an author of high
repute among the kindly, as well as acute and
intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real
misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord
Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The
picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and
many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as
an Englishman may find them if he looks
fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad
story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder;
and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen
could give individual instances of Bengalee
faithfulness almost unique in history, taking
all the circumstances of our relation to India
into account. The Bengalee is generally eager
for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both
courageous in the expression of his opinions,
and gifted to a remarkable degree with the
power to express those opinions with force and
precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an
unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during
an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in
force as well as eloquence, any unprepared
speech he ever had heard made by any mem-
ber of the House of Commons, if four or five
members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body
of men—small for that large province—who
are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young
Bengal." Some of them are no longer young,
but grave and aged; some have, in the course
of years, been highly distinguished for their
public services and their scientific and other
attainments. Some have at times been mis-
represented, and their language misinterpreted,
so that on its return to them it has amazed
none more than themselves. Nothing of this
has been done by the really great administra-
tors of India. That it has been done, however,
cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the
author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu
Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute,
as I have said, also an administrator, as the
reader will see from the title-page to this book.
A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might
seek for and not find. His use of the English
language has astonished many an educated
Englishman; and the quality of his reading is
shown by his marvellous power of quotation;
not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and
Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in
science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads,
and little-known old pamphlets, in the applica-
tion of which he leaves one wondering—first,
how he obtained the productions at all, and
secondly, how, having obtained them, he
learned to apply them so appositely to the
subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we
shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the
work of the administrator. He comes upon a
milkman's village, on which he finds fastened
the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens
the grip, and re-settles the village, in the
double interest of Prince and Peasant. And
all the time he sees everything. The poor
people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his
genial and kindly, if also at times, what a
Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice.
A "fair maid of Sonargoon" attracts his at-
tention by the gracefulness with which she
carries a vessel of water from the river; and,
though the fair maid and he are divided by
race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his
full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admit-
ted—and he will not be offended with me for
saying so—that he never meets with a fair face,
without at least giving evidence of the fact
that he has eyes to see and a heart to com-
prehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much
might be said, and still leave much more to
say. He meets a missionary on the river, and
evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to
pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, how-
ever, in the bud, and contents himself with
saying, "So new is preaching here, that the
simple people said the padre had been singing
in the street." He meets Catholic and Pro-
testant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles
over their disputes, while he astonishes them
by his command of the English language, and
even by his knowledge of the Bible—a know-
ledge, I may add, which is evident in many of
his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in
its cage, to his great distress, which is not
however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but
of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose
name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to
bark, with a noble independence, at some very
dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell:
[Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one
that will draw the author very close to the
great heart of humanity, wherever the words
are read. Could anything be finer than the
testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen,"
ending with the "Bengalee *parih*, my poor
Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah
dog. The passage is worthy of the author,
and of the great mercifulness of the land that
bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared
further to find bold and manly language. The
author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he
gives John his due, and admits that India owes
him a great debt. Here is one passage relating
to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pic-
tures—the reader will find some exceedingly
pretty, and all the more valuable in that they
are taken from a standpoint purely Indian;
not English. Where an English artist's mind
would be filled with European ideas, the mind
of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class
of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive
and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our
author was placed in a dilemma of a kind
not unknown to travellers in India, but not on
that account the less stupid. He wished to
go by a particular boat, and took time by the
forelock for that purpose. The fare was at
first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he
offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note
for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from
the Currency Office, and had been received
only the day before from another Government
department." The rest of the story is
thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth
something. I can fancy the author laughing
even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at
others, and equally well at himself. I shall
only venture on one more passage; and I give
it as showing the spirit of the man who dares
to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*.
He desired to return to his home in Bengal,
and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to indepen-
dent Tipperah, where he had been located
"some two years." He received the Maha-
raja's permission to return home; but still he
could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this pas-
sage; the lesson of the immense value of
courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers
and ruled. There is a great deal in that sen-
tence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best
administrator in India is not always the ablest,
the man whose plans are the wisest as plans;
but the man who, with plans or without them,
gives confidence to the people, and confidence
not merely in his justice, but also in his con-
siderateness and forbearance. A clever man
once said that the art of success in India is the
art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but
the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in
any case the art has its limits, and its natural
collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall
in the end. But there is one art that never
fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy
which, being natural, is not affected by any
whim or caprice, either of the person who
possesses it, or of any one with whom he has
relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once
more recall, as I easily and very vividly can,
the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as
known to me many years ago. I see him, as
I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra
Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-
abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*;
and I feel and say, with all earnestness and
sincerity, that among these are men whom
the Government of India would be wise in
recognising and winning entirely to its side.
They are men on whom no really generous
word—true as well as generous—ever is
thrown away. I have compared them at times
with men of kindred occupations at home,
and I think that they are as a rule by far
the truer gentlemen in good manners, and
often in very much more than mere manners.
May the great God, whose sacred Name they
use as that of the Father of all, guide them to
a nobler destiny than any they yet have
known, and with them, and by them, bless
their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1888.

No. 335

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

NOT GLAD, NOR SAD.

YOU sang a little song to-day,
It was not sad, it was not gay,
The very theme was high out-worn :
Two lovers met, as lovers may,
They had not met—since yesterday—
They must not meet again—till morn !

And did they meet again, my dear ?—
Did morning come and find them here,
To see each other's eyes again ?
Alas, on *that* you are not clear,
For hearts will shift as winds will veer,
And Love can veer like any vane !

Ah no, I think some sudden craze,
Some bitter spite befell their days,—
What was that plaintive minor for ?
No more together lie their ways,
Remote, perhaps, the lover strays,
Perhaps the lady comes no more !

So strange the numbers sob and swell ;
No, there's no guessing what befell ;
It is the sweetest song you sing !
Not sad, and yet—I cannot tell,—
Not glad, and yet—'tis very well—
Like Love, like Life, like anything !

FEBRUARY FILLDYKE.

O February Filldyke ! darkly pour
Rivers of rain from out your cloudy sky,
And heed not slanderous men. Right glad am I
To see thee soften earth so hard and froze.
Thine aconites do make a golden floor ;
And snowdrops, winter's kindest legacy,
Droop dainty heads, and are, like maidens, shy,
Knowing that boisterous March is at the door.
Thy scented breath, thy blackbird's broken stave,
Do charm delight ; and thrice more welcome thou,
With hazel catkins twined about thy brow,
Than that last gleam that old October gave.

The Indian summer let my rivals sing,
But I will praise the Spring before the Spring.

THE POPLARS.

Shivering and wretchedly three poplars tall
Sway in the twilight of a city high,
Mire at their feet, above them cloudy sky,
Girt by the limits of a meagre wall

O'er which the thin gloom of their shadows fall.
And yet beyond them, hid from mortal eye,
The East's mysterious magic gardens lie,
Where the rapt nightingales for ever call
From bowering rose and myrtle. At a gate,
Unseen by men, an Ethiop doth stand,
Finger on lip, to lead me through the land
To the dim vastness of cool courts, where late
Watches unearthly Beauty. Ah ! there be
Spells subtle woven by those wizards three !

CHARLES LAMB.

DEAR heart ! from dim Elizabethan days
Surely thy feet strayed to our garish noon ;
Thou should'st have walked beneath a yellowing moon,
In some old garden's green, enchanted ways,
With Herrick and Ben Jonson ; while in praise
Of his lady thrilled the nightingale's full tune,—
And he grown still, these sang, 'neath skies of June,
That bent to hear, catches and roundelays.
In fair converse, thou might'st have wanderèd
With Burton's self, the master whose rare thought
Makes Melancholy glad the heart like wine ;
In thy earth-day, these fair compeers were dead ;
How pleasant was their laughter, had they caught
The sallies of thy humour, quaint and fine !

KATHARINE TYNAN.

SONG OF THE DIRT.

A parody on Hood's "Song of the Shirt."

Dig—dig—dig—
To pierce for the golden ore ;
Dig—dig—dig—
Till you sweat at every pore.
Dig—dig—dig—
To root in the deep black sand ;
And this is to be a citizen
Of a free and Christian land !
And it's oh ! to be a slave
To the Heathen and the Turk,
To rid the hands of a Christian man
From such dirty and toilsome work !

Wash—wash—wash—
Till the back is almost broke ;
Wash—wash—wash—
With your legs and your thighs in soak.
Wash—wash—wash—
Revolving an old tin pan,
And wabbling about with a shake and a splash
Till you doubt you're a Christian man !
Soul and body and mind,
Mind and body and soul,
O ! can it be right when they're all confined
To the basin and the bowl ?

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Pile—pile—pile—
 When it's only a little heap—
 Pile—pile—pile—
 Till it "graderly" grows more deep—
 Pile—pile—pile—
 And stow it away in a bag,
 Till you gaze with eyes of wild surprise
 On the contents of *that* rag !
 Oh ! can it be here I stand ?
 And can it be gold I see ?
 Ho ! ho ! I am off for a Christian land
 To spend it so merrily !

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

How are the mighty fallen ! The great Edison has descended to make a plaything—a veritable wax toy. He has invented a talking doll. It contains a miniature motor and the smallest phonograph ever made. The phonograph and the jaws of the doll being worked simultaneously, the fictitious infant talks for just one minute by Mr. Edison's golden chronometer. Before stopping, her dollship utters the dying words of John Quincy Adams—"Now I lay me down to sleep."

THE idea may be put to more practical purpose. Mr. Edison may construct an adult doll, so to say, of a man in canonicals going through the whole weekly service and delivering a neat little sermon. It would be a great convenience to gouty paterfamilias, as to all earnest Christians who wish to avoid the low uses to which the Sabbath is put in the flirtations and assignations at Church, &c.

HERE is a bright idea which we make a present of to the Government of India ! Now they are engaged in a war with the Land of the Lamas, why don't they order of Edison a thousand praying machines ? Such a consignment would be of better service than rifled artillery. The good Thibetians would submit instantaneously to a people armed with such an unfailing weapon to force the gates of the Lord Buddha's Paradise. If they offered a patent prayer multiplier actually voicing *Om ! mani padma, Om !*—which Edison could construct—the *Chemy* would in piety come to terms.

If the Government possessed imagination—that imagination which is the grand secret of statesmanship—they would not be content to laugh at our *bizarre* fancy and have done with it. Government by toys is not all a joke—as our Indian rulers themselves know, in their management of Her Majesty's Asiatic children.

THIS is the fate of cheap and nasty :—

"The present position of the paper industry throughout Austria is by no means satisfactory" (says *Industries*). One of the largest mills was forced a short time ago to go into liquidation, and another large mill, which used in former years to pay good dividends, is now unable to pay its shareholders any dividends at all. Generally speaking, the paper mills manage with difficulty to pay even the interest on their capital expenditure, to say nothing of profits, and this state of things is ascribed partly to over-production, and partly to excessive competition and cutting of prices, which are, to a certain extent, encouraged even by the Government and public administrations. It has of late become the rule to give the orders to those firms who have sent in the lowest tenders, quite irrespective of the reputation and standing of those firms, and result is that the quality of the paper supplied under these contracts becomes worse from year to year. I have recently heard of a case where a Government office had to spend a large sum on mending official documents written on paper which was supplied only three years ago, and thus the saving effected in the acceptance of the lowest tender becomes to a great extent illusory. Some of the more respectable paper mills are now trying to mend matters by forming a syndicate of paper makers, which would regulate quality, prices, and quantity produced ; and a circular has been issued to the paper mills in Austria-Hungary with this object. Of the 267 mills applied to, only twenty-two have, however, agreed to the proposal, and thus the project must be considered as having failed. It is now proposed to form six local syndicates in various parts of the country, each to select a representative, who will join the general syndicate, and this proposal seems to be more favourably received."

In India, the newspapers are published either on this German stuff, or latterly, on Bally or Titaghur mill rag. *Reis and Rayyet* has, from the first, been printed on costly but durable English. We do not go in for cheap patriotism, of any kind.

HERE is a remarkable invention :—

"A pianoforte manufacturer of Leipzig has invented a most ingenious apparatus for printing music, which, when put in electrical communication with a piano or any other instrument possessing a keyboard, registers a piece of music automatically while it is being played. The construction of the apparatus is somewhat on the principle of the watch. While in motion a strip of paper is passed through, the lines being printed on it during its passage ; it then slides under a series of diminutive rollers, corresponding to the keys on piano, which register a mark on the paper as the notes are touched. The signs which represent rests are not those usually employed. On touching a key the corresponding roller registers a mark varying in length with the duration of the note. These signs are easily comprehended by anyone possessing the key. The electric communication with the keyboard is attained by means of small metallic points attached to each note, which when touched, is plunged into a small receiver containing mercury."

ENGLAND had the honor of introducing the railway at the seat of war, as early as 1855 in the Crimea. Many have been the improvements in war administration since. And now they have established a small printing office at Massowah under the management of the Military Commandant for the use of the Italian army of occupation.

MORE to the purpose of war is the following effort of Italian intelligence :—

"A private trial of the pneumatic dynamite gun, which has been built for Spezzia, Italy, under the charge of Captain Zalinsake, took place last week at New York. The gun is 40 feet long, 15 inches in diameter, and is charged with a shell 6 feet long. By the aid of hydraulic fittings it is easily handled. The trial demonstrated the capacity of the gun to deliver accurately within a range of two miles shells weighing nine hundred pounds. The charge consists of six hundred pounds of gelatine, equal to one thousand pounds of gun-cotton."

FOR popular education and literary activity, there is no country like the Alpine State. There is no place of equal extent even in the most thickly populated parts of America where the place is so busy. There are no less than 776 journals and periodical reviews in Switzerland, not counting the 36 official publications of the Federal Administration. The Canton of Zurich alone boasts of 123. Of the 776, 491 are published in German, 229 in French, 17 in Italian and only 10 in English, Polish and Russian. 26 publications are sometimes in two, three or even four languages. The Germans form the largest element, for they form 75 per cent of the total population. The French come next, being 21 per cent, while the Italians count 4 per cent.

AT Lyons, out of 13 printing establishments, 8 employ women—for they are found cheaper than men.

LAST month, 38,164 persons—Natives 29,918 males and 7,833 females ; Europeans 333 males and 80 females—visited the Indian Museum, during the 23 days it was open to the public, the average attendance being 1,659.

DURING the Exhibition of 1889, the Paris Chamber of Commerce will hold an International Commercial Congress, for the discussion of such matters as—the question of transport both of travellers and goods, more specially the matter ; comparison of freights by express and luggage trains ; means of accelerating delivery of small parcels ; fiscal matters ; advantages and disadvantages of treaties of commerce ; internal commercial legislation ; the position of workmen and clerks, &c.

A SUB-POSTMASTER on Rs. 20 a month, has at Akola been convicted of misappropriating three thousand rupees, and has been sentenced to fourteen years' rigorous imprisonment.

THE Royal Commission appointed to inquire into alleged irregularities in the Metropolitan Board of Works, is doing good work. Remarkable disclosures of corruption have been made. Builders, theatrical lessees and advertising contractors are accustomed to pay people connected with the Board large commissions for early information or for favourable reports.

ZOLA seems to have been prohibited in Berlin. No sooner the translation of "La Terre" appeared than the police proceeded to seize every copy, the printers and booksellers being called upon to answer in court for their offences.

THE Eiffel Tower, which is now in course of construction to commemorate the centenary of the Great French Revolution of 1789, will be the loftiest Tower in the world. It has already attained a height of 115 metres, and when completed, it will be more than 300 metres or a mile high. At a recent *déjeuner d'inauguration*, at which about 150 guests, mostly representatives of the Press, were invited and entertained by M. Eiffel and his coadjutors M. M. Adrien Hebrard and Berger, several speeches were made at the end of the breakfast, and M. Eiffel, with a cordiality the most communicative, thanked the representatives of the Press, who, he said, enabled him to triumph over all the forms of an obstructionist and defamatory campaign. The Eiffel Tower is a triumph of the French industry *par excellence*, a victory of iron, a glorification of the most lively forces of the nation and at the same time it is a conception of a character eminently literary and a work of transcendental imagination uniting grace with the progress of the sciences. The eminent engineer concluded: "I ask you to defer for a little while your definite judgment on the work. You have ascended 347 steps to take part in this initial ceremony and you will soon mount more than a mile to assist at the final *banquet d'inauguration*."

This colossal tower will be completed by the time the Exhibition is opened, and will really be one of the wonders of the world.

Two French Correspondents have been expelled from Berlin, one for publishing reflections on the German army in the *Matin*, Paris journal, and the other for libelling the Emperor and Empress in the *Gaulois*. From the report of the London *Morning Post's* special, they go back with a light heart, and are not in the least ashamed of having abused the hospitality of Germany. They are evidently glad of such cheap martyrdom. Doubtless they make sure of a grand reception at Paris.

Another French journalist had been marked out, but he, like the French army in 1870, retreated before the German attentions.

ON the 12th July a Lucknow nobleman, known as Nawab Manga Sahib, died from a cobra bite in the hand, while out shooting.

ACCORDING to a notification of the Government of India, in the Department of Finance and Commerce, No. 4138, dated Simla, the 27th July, 1888, the Notes (or Stock certificates issued in lieu thereof) of the Four-and-a-half per cent. Loan of 1870, will be discharged at the Public Debt Office, Bank of Bengal, Calcutta, on the 27th October 1888, on which date the interest on such Notes (or Stock certificates) will cease. Proprietors are, however, allowed the option of transferring the amount of their Promissory Notes (or Stock certificates) into the Four per cent. Loan of 1st May 1865, bearing interest from 1st November 1888. The time for such transfer is limited to 1st September 1888. Up to noon of that day, 4½ per cents, duly receipted, will be received at the Banks of Bengal, Madras, or Bombay and their Branches or at any Government Treasury in India, without charge, for the new Four per cents. The interest overdue on such surrendered Notes and Stock certificates and Re. 1-5-3, further interest in advance from 15th July 1888 upto and including the 31st October 1888, at 4½, will be paid at the surrender for transfer.

LAST Saturday, the Calcutta Bar entertained themselves, the High Court Judges and the Advocate-General, for the honor done to themselves by the elevation of their head Sir Gregory Charles Paul to the dignity of K. C. I. E. Mr. L. P. D. Broughton, the Administrator-General, the senior barrister present, presided. The place chosen was the Dalhousie Institute, M. Bonsard supplied the dinner, and Messrs. Lobo the music.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Colds, Coughs, Shortness of Breath. —These maladies require early and unremitting attention, for if neglected they often end in asthma, bronchitis, or consumption. The Ointment well rubbed upon the chest and back, penetrating the skin, is absorbed and carried directly to the lungs, whence it expels all impurities. All the blood in the body is perpetually passing through the lungs, and there all noxious particles tending to disease can be quickly, thoroughly, and permanently neutralized, rendered harmless, or ejected from the system. Holloway's Ointment and Pills perfectly accomplish this purification; and through the blood thus cleansed, the influence of these wonderful medicaments reaches the remotest part of the human body, and thus cures all diseased action, whether internal or external.

THE Shinwaris are apparently giving trouble. The Amir has massed a large body of troops at Deh-Sarak, under the command of General Gholam Hyder, Commander-in-Chief for operations in the Shinwari country west of the Khyber. The expedition into the Kuner Valley and Bajour is, of course, postponed.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

MR. CRAWFORD, Commissioner of the Central Division, Bombay, was placed on his trial at Poona, on the 1st inst. before Mr. Vidal, the District Magistrate. Mr. Little, the Government Solicitor, appeared to prosecute and Mr. Anderson instructed by Mr. Lynch, to defend. Mr. Little opened the case by applying for a postponement. There was strenuous objection. It was strange, remarked the opposing counsel that a high official has been suspended and for three weeks he has been kept ignorant of the charges against him and even then Government was not prepared to proceed with the case. He claimed for the accused the right to be tried immediately, specially as it was not alleged that a single rupee went into Mr. Crawford's pocket. Mr. Anderson grew eloquent on the unfairness of the proceedings against his client, characterising them as opposed to the fundamental principles of English law. It is also reported that the counsel "had expressed himself in moderate terms, but it was with some difficulty that he controlled the indignation which every fair-minded man must share." Mr. Vidal, while regretting the application for adjournment, and in view that "further evidence might be obtained by the prosecution if an adjournment were granted," postponed the case to the 16th, when no further time would be allowed.

The case against Hunmantrao also stands adjourned before the same Magistrate to the 15th instant.

MR. JOHN CORLETT, the proprietor and editor of the *Sporting Times*, has added a new and, as most fellahs would think, not unenviable feather to his cap. He is not only smart as a journalist and cute in management, but also redoubtable as a witness in court. He has fared so dangerous an assailant as the great Sir Charles Russell himself, with all his advantage of attacking from the vantage ground of the bar the position of a witness in the box—which is in such ominous proximity to the dock. Called as a witness in the sensational case of libel instituted by the famous Jockey Wood *versus* Cox, Corlett coolly described himself as the owner of race-horses and a newspaper staff. Thereupon, Sir Charles Russell came thus upon him,—"you come here reluctantly?" Not in the least put out, Mr. Corlett retorted—"Oh dear no, Sir Charles; I come for £1 is."—(laughter.) Then Sir Charles asked: "What is the general reputation of Wood?" The witness coolly answered with perfect *nonchalance*: "The very atmosphere seems redolent against him"—(laughter). This was enough for the Knight of the bar, and he prudently retired from a useless contest with such a redoubtable antagonist. Here the counsel for the prosecution, Mr. Lockwood, took him up, with the sarcastic interrogation, "Is that a quotation from the *Sporting Times*?" (laughter). The witness, unabashed, replied, "Possibly next week." Mr. Lockwood: "Are you a jockey or an owner?"—The witness: "I am not a jockey. I weigh sixteen stone.—(laughter). I was annoyed to see Success apparently winning when I had not a shilling on"—(laughter).

The end of it was that the journalist was asked to descend from the enclosure in which he was placed and released from attendance. The witness's fencing was too much for the practised skill of counsel. It was clear that without any compensation the proceedings in court were degenerating into a farce, in which the joke went all against the long robe. The sporting and sportive journalist was too well up to impudent evasion for any chance of extracting anything out of him—to say nothing of the legal fiction of "the whole truth"—and too case-hardened in cynicism to be ashamed.

SINCE the death of the Rev. Dr. Henry Ward Beecher, they had been casting about for a successor. Many were the applicants for the place, for the Plymouth Church is a cathedral except in name and the pastor receives the pay of a bishop and has the disposal of the revenues of an archepiscopate. The competition was open to the whole English-speaking world. Confident and ambitious clergymen from Europe crossed over for the trial, but did not give satisfaction. The congregation itself called in likely men, but to no better purpose. Not that faithful shepherds pure in life and proficient in every Christian duty were not

to be found. The difficulty was about the preacher. There was in the Church itself a gentleman, the Rev. Samuel Halliday, who had for eighteen years been Dr. Ward Beecher's right hand man, administering the entire affairs of the church, with its numerous charities and schools, to perfection, a good modest holy man who kept everything spruce and bright for his chief and saved him all trouble. But Plymouth did not care for sanctity or administrative efficiency in the successor. They wanted what is vulgarly called the "gift of the gab." The fact was that Dr. Beecher himself had spoiled the Plymouth people. For more than a generation, they had been accustomed to a peculiar style. It was not the eloquence of the pulpit, pure and simple. It was a brilliant flash, with pyrotechnic effects. In fervid eloquence and all the higher qualities perhaps, the reputation of no American occupant of pulpit whose names have travelled to us, is higher than that of the late William Ellery Channing. But, even if Channing were a Trinitarian, he would scarcely have succeeded in the competition, any more than Robert Hall, of this side the water. Sydney Smith's fun would not perhaps have been broad enough for the Yankees, and he lacked earnestness and elevation. Binny would have been too terribly in earnest, we suspect. Spurgeon would have more chance. But Beecher was a far more gifted orator. Altogether, we are not surprised at the difficulty in finding a preacher of adequate calibre to supply his place. After two years' vain search and numerous trials of many candidates, the congregation invited Beecher's own valued friend Lyman Abbott, and, after probation, has just confirmed him in the succession. As a consequence, Mr. Halliday has resigned.

ON the death of the ex-King of Oudh, many applications reached Government purporting to come from his creditors for the recovery of their dues. We hear that, with three exceptions, Government has rejected all the applications. These favoured creditors are one Mansiram-ud-Dowla, the King's *factotum*, and another contractor for building, for four lacs between them, or 2 lacs each. The third of these creditors is Rutledge, the man of beasts, who supplied the royal menagerie. He became bankrupt in the King's lifetime, and, in his schedule filed in court, he named the King a debtor to an enormous sum. The Assignee of the court accordingly has preferred a demand on the King's estate for three lacs. They expect to be paid out of the proceeds of sale of the late King's property, on which already several lacs has been realised, though there is still a considerable quantity to be sold. Probably, a long time will elapse before these claims are adjusted. They should be scrutinised.

WE have received an earnest complaint from Khardah against the proposal of the local municipality to maintain only one site on the bank of the river, for burning the Hindu dead. This is a subject on which our countrymen are sore, and on which Europeans and our own inexperienced enlightened youth are apt to give them offence. Some years ago what a storm was raised in Calcutta, when the metropolis was proposed to be purged of the nuisance of burning altogether, by sending the dead bodies for cremation to the Sunderbuns! The measure was ripe and almost a *fait accompli*. It was the pet of the strong Government of Sir Cecil Beadon, supported by the Radical Reformers among us, at that time containing many men of mark or eminence. Yet the Government had to bow to the storm. The opposition was headed by Sir Cecil's personal friend, the late Ram Gopal Ghose, himself a leader of the beef and brandy party, who had once advocated the abolition of that rite of *Antarjali* for the maintenance of which he made a most pathetic appeal. Such is the Hindu feeling on the subject, and we do not wonder at the tempest in the tea pot of the little township of Khardah on their doubling burning question. The cremation business, as performed by Hindus, is obviously a nuisance, and at first sight one site seems sufficient for a village like Khardah. But though the local population is small, many dying and dead Hindus are carried there for the last rites and final disposed from the interior to a doubly holy place, sanctified by the Bhagirati and the god Shyam Sundar. Indeed, his godship plays a part in this question, as in all Khardah politics. At the burning ground, on the river near the principal landing, called *par excellence* Sri Ghat, where the Gosains—called by Heber Hindu bishops—the owners and custodians of the idol, and their relations and connections are brought for dying and cremation, the god is brought to offer consolation and hope of eternal felicity. But vulgar herd of Hindus are carried to another place, the

Natu Pal Ghat. Hence the necessity of maintaining both places, at any rate two places, one of which must be the Sri Ghat. For Shyam Sundarji claims his own time-honored Ghat, hallowed by the associations of centuries. He refuses to go elsewhere; he will certainly not go to Natu Pal's, guarded as it is from the approach of punctilious orthodox divinity by the abodes of unclean grave-diggers or rather cremation-ground labourers—*murdafarashes*. We hope the Municipal Commissioners will be able to arrive at a satisfactory solution and give Khardah peace.

But what of the crying nuisances within? Have the domestic wells for the storing of ordure from generation to generation been abolished?

WE welcome Baboo Parvati Nath Dutt, who went to Europe for scientific education, on his return home with success, and we rejoice at his honourable entry into the service of our country in the scientific line, as an Assistant in the Geological Survey. That line has hardly been touched among us. Baboo Dutt starts with a certain measure of distinction. He is a notable man and his arrival is an interesting occurrence. Bengal is proud of its pioneer geologist, and we are not surprised to see that Dacca, from which part of the country he comes, has given him a good reception. The value of the compliment is, of course, lessened by our Eastern brethren, among whom the local feeling is very strong, never missing an opportunity of "ovating"—to use one of the Americanisms of the local exponent of Queen's English—every "brither" that can be caught—not sparing even the fortunate son-in-law, who is such an incubus in the Education department.

It is curious to remark the difference between the feeling exhibited towards Mr. P. N. Dutt by his countrymen, and the bearing adopted by the Anglo-Indians whom he has joined in the noble profession of science. The attitude of the Department is one of sullen silence, if not suspicion. They evidently regard him a poacher into their preserve. Unable to help the trespass, they tacitly agreed to ignore him. He will not be suppressed by such strategy! Their masterly muteness and indifference only reveal the misery in their souls. The number of scientific Assistants in the Department is limited enough for the newcomer to cause a gentle flutter among them and excite curiosity, followed by the interchange of social amenities. Nothing of the kind, so far as we have been able to detect, though, on the present occasion, the nationality of the newcomer might be supposed to have been an additional ground for interest in, and for courtesy to, him. Not a syllable was breathed about him, or to him, beyond what the regulations of the state or the urgency of business compelled.

DR. KING having been able to send the truants at Head-Quarters, to the Land's End and John O'Groats of the Empire, would, one would suppose, be in the best spirits, in peace at home and abroad.

WE hope the native Press in the South will watch with zeal the case against Rao Bahadoor Kunjen Menon, first class Sub-Judge, late of Tellicherry. The administration must be purged, but not at the expense of judicial freedom. At this time when so many Europeans in high places are being detected in all parts of the empire, there may be special need for protecting native officers. Is it true that Mr. Menon is the victim of persecution? On the 13th July he applied to the Madras High Court to transfer the case of bribery against him from the District Court of Tellicherry to any other District. He questioned the competency of the Tellicherry Judge to sit in judgment on the case, having, under the authority of Government, at various times, held enquiries in the matter of various allegations of bribery made against the accused, and having besides issued a proclamation under the authority of Government offering a free pardon to all those who had given bribes to come forward and give evidence. The whole matter has been mismanaged throughout, giving the accused substantial cause of complaint. The Judge, it would seem, had been taking extra judicial statements on oath or affirmation, after which regular charges were preferred before the Joint-Magistrate against the accused and three others for receiving and giving bribes. It was urged by counsel for the accused that the issuing of the proclamation under the authority of the Government was improper and the action of the District Judge illegal. The Court held that the case had not been tried yet, and that a *prima facie* case must first be made out before committal to the Sessions Court, when an application might be properly made out for the transfer of the case. The High Court

properly refused to interfere until committal to the Sessions. The case is still in the court of the Joint-Magistrate. If that court commits, it will be time for making application to the High Court. We do not understand this haste of the accused Sub-Judge. He doubtless has reason to think that his committal is a foregone conclusion. Yet, it is strange that any lawyer should have advised him and undertaken his application in this behalf. It was taking time by the forelock with a vengeance! A vakeel would have been severely snubbed for such a useless proceeding.

Since then the inquiry has matured, and the Sub-Judge is now on trial at the Sessions Court of Tellichery. Lord Connemara was prompt to take the hint of the proceedings in the High Court, and appointed Mr. Irvine, Judge of Coimbatore, to hold the sessions at Tellichery.

So when, pursuant to previous suggestion, application was again made for transfer from Tellicherry, where the feeling is very strong in the matter, specially as the Judge might be called as a witness, it was met by the announcement that Government had already appointed a Judge from another District. Counsel pressing still, the Court said it had no jurisdiction.

In the face of the clear provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, it was a waste to have repeatedly resorted to the High Court in a matter in which the Government is supreme. When the Government is so reasonable as now throughout this Empire, there is the less reason for such beating about the bush. It is a pity that even a man in the position of a Sub-Judge, should be so wholly under the influence of lawyers with their tortuous ways, as not to see his own obvious path. They would have nothing to say to Government. Accordingly, he appeared before Mr. Irvine at Tellichery. Here his counsel made another useless and irrelevant application to the Judge to transfer the case to another District. He was quite true in saying that there was great prejudice against his client there, but *cui bono*? He might just as well have addressed the passing wind. All the elaborate argument on the terms of the Code in such cases was a solemn farce. Mr. Irvine was not the Government that he was so regularly instructed in the powers of Government under the Act. He was no more competent than are we to transfer the case to Calicut. On his expressing that simple and necessary truth, counsel fell back on telegraphing to Government. We should not be surprised if Government gave a curt refusal.

Clearly, Menon has need to be saved from friends as well as foes. There is no claim on Government for courtesy. After having despised so long, the accused's counsel fires off a telegram to it, expecting to overturn all its arrangements and change the *venue* to another District, after the case has been called by the Judge appointed to try it. There is a time for everything, and much as we recognise the value of the telegraph as a means of administration, Mr. Willie Grant's telegram at this stage seems to us an abuse of the agency.

It would be all the same a pity, if, from indiscretion of his advisers, Mr. Menon should not obtain the transfer of his case. He badly wants it. He could not expect fair play in Tellichery. The *genius loci* is dead against him. All the District administration, from Judge and Magistrate and Collector to Police, is committed to find him guilty. Mr. Irvine coming to Tellichery, living in familiar intercourse with the authorities and breathing the atmosphere of the place, can scarcely keep himself from succumbing to the prevailing influence.

OUR surmise of last week has been verified to the letter. The extent of the enquiry into Home Rule has been the subject of prolonged and acrimonious debate. In the course of it, Mr. Henry Mathews has with brutal candour confessed the real object of the ministry in the Bill. He said that it was intended more to verify the *Times*' charges than to clear the members of the House charged against. Both Mr. Gladstone and Sir William Harcourt denounced enlarging the scope of the Bill. An amendment by Mr. Reid to limit it was rejected by a majority of 47 votes. The Parnellites strongly opposed the nomination of Sir John Day as one of the Commission to investigate the charges, but the original motion was carried by a majority of 89.

ENGLAND has been visited by terrific storms accompanied by rain, seriously damaging the crops. The eastern part of London felt it severely. The weather has been splendid since.

WHO is the "Bengali Journalist" who, week after week, airs his stray thoughts from Bengal, in the columns of the *Indian Spectator* of Bombay? His thoughts discover his camp and his connections, though. He is, to begin with, an out and out Congress-wallah. In the spirit of the Bengali Chaitanyite who rolled on the ground exclaiming—This is the holy clay of which the Lord's favorite drum

(the earthen *Mridanga* or *Khole*) is made! he notices the very wrapper of the Report of the Congress. That wrapper, colour and all, may be an accident, or imposed upon the managers by the market—in India we practically have so little choice in our typography and get up—but our anonymous brother smells a—perfume, we mean, in the light green coating of the Report as in every belonging of the Congress. "There is," says he, "there is a meaning in that colour. I believe it is the Irish Nationalist colour." Nothing could be more delightful, of course, or, we may add, more significant. No wonder that the writer is in raptures at the electioneering placard which the agents and patrons of the Congress are circulating in vast numbers in Great Britain and Ireland. In his judgment,

"The contents of the placard on the National Congress which has been stuck up in the streets of London are edifying. Within the short compass of a few lines, they state the miserable story of India's woes with telling effect. The writer of them must be a master mind. I suppose it is Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji or Mr. Hume to whom the credit of the composition is due. Whoever it may be, he deserves the best thanks of the Indian community."

Such is our Journalist's exordium, and he doubtless takes care to put his best foot foremost. It is at least consolatory that master-minds are not such rare birds in the East as in the black and barren West, and that we have left in our mind in Bengal almost a master mind—a jeweller who can recognise true genius at a glance. We have an uncomfortable suspicion, however, that the prime test of master minds is a voyage to Europe, whether they go themselves or send their wares there. Possibly masterliness, like some liquors, matures by a long voyage.

After such a beginning, the rest is plain sailing. The writer is naturally "very sanguine about the result of the Congress Agitation that has at last been set up in England." Others, who are neither master minds nor anything near it, may think differently. Our Agitators are continually making the mistake of reckoning without their host, and the hosts of the enemy. Under any circumstances, it would be a bad day for England and India, when placards indited by "master minds" "stating the miserable story of India's woes with telling effect," placarded in the streets of London or, for that matter, in every street, lane and bylane throughout the United Kingdom, to any appreciable extent superseded the legitimate channels of governing this vast Empire or influencing its destinies.

The writer is mighty glad that the Maharaja of Cooch Behar has accepted the office of Patron of a Ladies' Institution, and formally congratulates His Highness. We suspect this means not the usual paper patronage. Anyhow it was a matter of course when the writer informs us that the late Keshub Chunder Sen founded the Institution or a school of the kind.

Our Journalist is nothing if not interrogative. He fires a whole catechism, at the rate of a question per every paragraph and a half during the greater part of his article. Thus, to take them at random, we have—

"Why do not Mr. Naoroji or Mr. Bonerjee in combination with such of our English friends as Mr. S. Smith, Mr. J. Slagg, Professor Hunter and others, do something to enlighten Lord Lansdowne on the ways of governing India justly and liberally?"

He evidently is not very well pleased with Mr. Bonnerjee, however, who is ill and unable to work. The Ghoses are the true stuff—above the ills that flesh is heir to we suppose, and the rest of it—and Lal Mohan is the Ghose *par excellence*—the Ghosiest of Ghoses. He has a neat scheme for endowing the hero:—

"Why should not Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose be induced to go? It is a great pity that he is now obliged to pass away his days in Calcutta, practising as a barrister. The wealthy men of Bengal should combine and arrange for his permanent residence in London as our Resident Representative."

We do not know how Mr. Ghose will be pleased at the suggestion involved in this proposition. Another question—

"Why should not natives of the country who possess all the qualities of European gentlemen be called so by Europeans as what I can hardly make out. Do Anglo-Indians still think that white skin to be one of the possessions entitling a man to be called a gentleman?"

Of course, this Journalist "possesses all the qualities of European gentlemen." It is satisfactory to the country to be assured of the possession of at least the notable unit. What a pity that Europeans should not appreciate it!

POETRY—or verse—has always been a speciality of *Reis and Rayyet*. Our first page has usually been devoted to it. We have thus presented many pieces of merit, by natives and Europeans. For years—before his wayward Muse in a pet shelved her harp on the top branch of the tallest tree of the mango-grove in classic Paikpara—our friend Ram Sharma,

the gifted poet of that remarkable poem in stout blank verse, "The Last Day," delighted our readers. We have made it a point to lay before them the most notable occasional verse of the period. Accordingly, we have given Tennyson's and Swinburne's Jubilee Odes, Edwin Arnold's and other tributes to Mathew Arnold and all the best poetry written in English on the death of the late Emperors of Germany, with a splendid translation of a most stirring French appeal to the dying Frederick III. In the absence of original verse, we draw from different sources, including little known pieces or unpublished verse repeated from mouth to mouth.

The present number is not without its attractions. "Not glad nor sad" is a touching theme, tenderly treated. The lovers of the sonnet have always been well served by us, and this time there are three good ones. The last is a lady's tribute to Charles Lamb which must delight the hearts of all dear Elia's admirers. It will yet take rank among the best efforts in the language. The "Song of the Dirt" has not equal claims, but in view of the diggin's in our own midst, we think it will be interesting. It was composed and published in California among the diggers during the height of the Gold Fever. It does not apply to India, however, the conditions of our gold industry being entirely different from those of mining in California or Australia.

SOORJ COOMAREE BEEBEE has again been unfortunate. The High Court dismissed her appeal without even troubling the respondent for his say. Lucky indeed are they that engage counsellor Woodroffe. It is enough to engage him and brandish him in court. Poor Jain Law has no hope in Calcutta, under the present régime.

In Moorshedabad, the Jains' stronghold, the great Juggut Sett case has been decided in favor of the lady—widow of Sett Gobin Chand—who is now the patriarchess of the family. The Court delivered judgment on the 31st July, in accordance with Jain Law.

WE gather that

"A new law has recently been passed in Japan dealing with the Press, and will be in force for a period of six months. Before being able to publish a journal, it is now necessary for the editor, manager, and printers to furnish their names and ages; they must have attained the age of 20 years, be Japanese subjects, and in full possession of their rights of citizenship. The editor and printer must not be one and the same person. Unless the journal treats exclusively of science, art, statistics, or market quotations, a deposit of 1,750 to 5,000 francs has to be paid. Should any correspondent desire to rectify an article previously published in the journal, the editor must print it *in extenso* in the same type and the identical column in which the original article appeared. Should the correction be twice as long as the original, the surplus is considered as advertisement, and must be paid for as such. Any article criticising a law is absolutely prohibited, no matter how bad the legislation may be. No document may be reproduced, nor even an allusion made to it without consent of the Government. The Minister of the Interior may suspend or confiscate a journal should he consider it menacing to the public peace, or if any criticisms be made on the customs of the country, even should these customs be prejudicial to the public weal. Although the penalties now in force against journalistic offences are very numerous, still they are not by any means so numerous as formerly."

That beats the refinements of the most jealous European tyranny. And this is the great Reform State of the day!

We really do not understand these Ultra Orientals of the Pacific. Instant like the French, they have apparently less ballast. In the enthusiasm of an hour, they demolished their old edifice down to the foundations, and are building anew, without having a settled plan. They not only abolished the Church but denounced religion. In a few years, they discovered that even a faith without God as was theirs was not the useless lumber they regarded it. Their present attitude may be pithily put in the following notice:—

"Wanted—

A State Religion.

Apply to the Ministry of the Interior, Japan." Bentham in England and specially the Abbé Sièyes in France used to deal in the article. They must surely have left successors in that Continent. Here is an opportunity too for our own countryman Baboo Protab Chunder Mozoomdar, who has been repeatedly foiled in his efforts to effect entrance into the seat of power of the temple of the Brahma Samaj of India. Japan just now is just the place for a Pope in search of the crown of privilege—or of martyrdom.

WANTED

A GRADUATE to serve as a TEACHER in the BURDWAN MUNICIPAL SCHOOL, pay Rs. 40 a month. No one who is not very strong in Mathematics need apply. Applications with copies of testimonials will be received by the undersigned till the 10th August 1888.

(Sd.) NALI NAKSHA BOSU,
Chairman.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1888.

J. LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

ITS DIFFICULTIES.

WE have already pointed out the weak point of Local Self-Government in the administration of the local resources. An unloosening of authority has marked the first stage of the experiment, and this is chiefly due to the absence of official *prestige* in the position of the newly created local authorities. The elective system has also developed a tendency on the part of these authorities to partiality of conduct and over-lenieny of assessment, with an eye to their continued popularity with the electorate. Votes at the elections are generally regarded as an obligation conferred on the returned candidates with a money value, to be repaid by reduction of assessment. Both these tendencies might be left to work out their remedy as there is progress of enlightenment in the communities. But personal official help may help to reduce the difficulty. Their effects, in the meantime, upon the administration of local funds cannot but be highly embarrassing. If an efficient financial administration is the basis of successful administration all round, wherever that efficiency is lost, through causes well within the control of the Government officers, the Government officers incur a responsibility by not removing them.

The financial resources of these local institutions are far from adequate, and it is clearly in the power of the Government to place them on a more satisfactory footing. The house tax, with the cumbersome and costly machinery for its collection and its unavoidable unrealizable balances, does not suffice for their manifold wants. Such as it is, its administration is capable of considerable improvement. It is for the Government, which is responsible for devising the tax as well as the unsatisfactory machinery by which it is administered, to find the remedy. It might work comparatively well in Calcutta or elsewhere with official authority at its back, though even here, to judge by the published proceedings of the last sitting of the Calcutta Commissioners, and Babu Doorgagati Banerjee's scathing criticism of the collection, it is far from working satisfactorily in Calcutta. That it does not work smoothly and effectively in the country at large, is a fact about which there is no question. It is certain that the administration of the municipal taxes can lay no claim to that regularity which marks the administration of the Provincial or Imperial imposts. Why there should be this difference, is a question which should have long ago suggested itself to the real overruling authorities. It may be all very well for Sir Stuart Bayley to give a wider elective constitution to Local Self-Government, but here are difficulties of detail which also require his attention. We think some of these difficulties are removable by the position of local authorities being improved in dignity and power. The Government is perhaps wise in jealously guarding against the chance of these subordinate authorities developing themselves into oppressors of their fellow-subjects. Tendencies to high-handedness and undue abuse of power, no doubt, exist and require to be checked. But having once constituted them local administrators, there is no halting half-way—no shrinking from its legitimate conclusion. The problem is no doubt one of delicacy—a dilemma is involved in the task of rendering Local Self-Government something more than nominal. Our municipal authorities are

supposed, for instance, to be the sanitary guardians over their jurisdictions. They are expected to prevent the commission of nuisances, and are even invested with the powers of *ex-officio* Honorary Magistrates, for trial of offenders against the sanitary provisions of the law. By an inexplicable perversity of official routine, however, they are deprived of all control over the police, and how Benches of Honorary Magistrates, to which the local police owes no obedience, work at all in practice, may be better conceived than described. Little work, if any, is got from these Municipal Benches in the country, and the evil has gone so far as to have at last drawn the attention of the Government. We hear that several municipalities have been called for explanation on account of the small work done by them. We do not know what explanation will be offered, but the admitted failure of the system is chiefly due to the absurd relations which now subsist between the police and the local authorities. Here is room for amendment. The Police may be an Imperial institution, maintained in all its pomp and state to terrorize a law-abiding populace. But if Local Self-Government is to be a real limb of the administration, its relations to the police must be, in some respects, of authority. As it is, the police is being gradually relieved of the *quasi*-municipal duties hitherto performed by it. It no longer helps in the execution of warrants for collection of taxes, or the registration of vital statistics, or the administration of the pounds. A process of complete separation between the police and the municipality, has been long at work, and is by this almost finished. This has been one effect of the discontinuance, under Lord Ripon's just orders, of the municipal *subsidies* for paying the police, and the effect is seen everywhere, except when the official is both the police and the municipal administration. To counteract the disadvantage of this, the Government of the Upper Provinces have hit upon a kind of *quasi*-municipal police for municipal purposes, with a livery of its own, and a special jurisdiction. The question, at all events, demands final settlement, and should not be left in its present position of uncertainty and anomaly.

The position of the authorities constituted under the scheme of Local Self-Government, requires to be made one of more real dignity and power. It was a statesmanlike suggestion made, at the discussion of the measure in the Imperial Council, that these authorities might be given, under well-guarded limitations, small civil and criminal jurisdictions. To command the willing respect and confidence of those over whom they are placed, they must exercise some more real power than the overseership of roads and drains, and be invested, in popular estimation, with more of dignity than they possess. We do not mean the dignity which comes from titles. That is a Brummagem dignity wherever it is unsupported by sterling worth and merit. We seek a more, really dignified position for our local administrators, which the Government may give, by showing them practical sympathy and support in their actual work—by giving them proofs of more confidence. There may be more of touch between the local and the official authorities. We have already seen that, in cases of criminal resistance to the local authorities, in the exercise of their legal functions, they must appeal to the Magistrates for help just as ordinary suitors, and place themselves in an awkward predicament which must be ruinous to their *prestige*. A little personal sympathy on the part of the official head

of the district, would be an effective remedy, once for all, for such critical situations, but personality is an element of administration which seldom comes into play in what has been facetiously called the caste-iron British routine, and a scene is presented of Local Self-Government in court, from which it only emerges with its dignity torn to shreds and tatters.

In regard to the financial straits in which all municipalities are, more or less, involved, it is much in the power of district officials, and of the Government especially, to lend them a helping hand. This may be done in two ways. The Government, if it really believed and sympathized in the financial embarrassment of these bodies, might well make over to them additional resources to which they have a right, but from the benefit of which they continue to be excluded. There is no good reason, for instance, why they should not enjoy the entire proceeds of ferries which exist within their limits. The old ferry-funds have, in most cases, been wholly or partially seized upon by the provincial exchequer, the municipalities being told to recoup the loss as best they might. Nor do we see why the excise revenue realized in a municipal town, should not, at any rate to some fractional extent, benefit the town administration. A portion of this revenue is, we believe, enjoyed by municipalities in Western India, and it is at all events anomalous why a different arrangement should exist in other provinces. The excise revenue is derived from the trade and prosperity of the town, and the town administration may well claim a fair share of it. The same remarks apply with equal force to the Imperial imposts on trade and other income. But it is vain, in the chronic financial exigencies of the Imperial Government, to assert a claim of abstract right which has no chance of being accepted. The scheme of financial decentralization must, it seems, work down, so as to leave no local administration unaffected. The Government may, however, do a considerable help to municipal administration, by giving loans for permanent municipal works at moderate interest. As it is, the municipal resources are, year after year, frittered away upon minor works of a current nature, while schemes of permanent sanitary or other improvement, requiring a large outlay for their execution, have to be continually put off, from inability to make up the necessary funds from the ordinary revenue. Our contemporary of the *Statesman* has been, with his characteristic persistence, advocating a change of Government policy in this respect, and has, it appears, so far succeeded as to have brought the Government of India to consider the subject. There can be no doubt that, if municipalities are to undertake works of permanent usefulness, like systematic drainage and water-supply, they must be helped by Government with the capital on easy terms, and that so long as this is not done freely and on a well-recognized system, the municipal resources, such as they are, must go on wasting themselves upon comparatively useless or unimportant objects.

The Government may strengthen the financial position of municipalities in another way. It may relieve them of pecuniary burdens, which do not legitimately belong to them. They have been very liberally relieved of the police expenditure, which, from the commencement of municipal institutions, had been made the first charge upon the Municipal Fund. That relief bids fair, however, to be only nominal, when the Government appears determined to fasten upon municipalities new responsibilities of the same or

greater value, by way of a compensation as it were for the loss of the police subsidy. The Municipal Fund lies now at the mercy of a number of Government Departments, and there is a regular scramble for the money. Altogether, there is need of more helpful official sympathy with the interests of Self-Government than, we are constrained to say, is now evinced.

THE WEATHER AND AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

WE are in the midst of the rains, at last. After the long tyranny of the sun in all his unqualified effulgence, the change is not simply a relief but was a necessity of existence itself. Not as it might be in the stormy wintered North, it was a great comfort to see the monochrome—light, thin, soft dark—of the water-charged clouds spread like a layer on the whole Heavens, for days together. Monday was a particularly rainy day, particularly at night—to use a sort of bull necessitated by the imperfection of language—when there was an almost continual downpour. For the last five years or so, Bengal generally has been lucky in the weather, and there has been abundance of the fruits of the earth. It was almost time enough for a reverse of fortune. The extraordinary heat this year and the postponement of the monsoons seemed ominous. Indeed, the niggardliness of the heavens had alarmed the country as it saw its tiny plants perish and the peasantry were unable to sow. With the rains hope has again revived. From generals, let us proceed to particulars, and end this notice with a typical example of a well-cultivated tract in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. The cis-Damudah parts west of Howrah, which all these years benefited by the propitiousness of the seasons, are this year feeling the effects of inclemency. An industrious peasantry makes the most of a good soil, not over moist, raising jute, *sone*, &c., besides rice.

It is this tract which is the source of the supply of the esculent roots and tubers, *ole*, *kachu*, potato, and culinary vegetables like bringal, *dheros*, &c. The potato time is not yet, the root being planted after the Poojas. But, in consequence of the late drought, the other vegetables, including the jute and some plants have all perished. The reliance of the people is now on the paddy. This requires abundance of water, and, had the rains been withheld nor poured in copiously, the situation would have been serious indeed. That fear has, for the present, gone. There has been rain and plenty of it. It commenced in the afternoon of Monday week. The next two days there was an unceasing shower, and it has been raining from time to time since. The effect on the usually quiet population was instantaneous. There is joy in the land again. Out of work the Bengal peasants are not given to any demonstrative dissipation. In a season of drought, when they are not called to their daily active operations in the field, they are more than ever dispirited eying the heavens in mute importunity. The re-call to their accustomed round of severe toil, rouses them up to unaccustomed animation. There is life and movement and even bustle. A smile lights up the swarthy cheeks, and even song breaks out from lips erewhile sealed in anxiety. Labour is again in demand. Fancy the condition of the mere labourer in the rural country, when his better employing peasant is not in need of his service!

With the copious showers, the price of labour has risen throughout the country. In the cis-Damuda tract, owing to the strenuous desire of the cultivators

to utilise the opportunity, and probably also to the dispersion of local labour during the late drought, the price has nearly doubled. Since Saturday, at Belia' Adampore and the neighbouring villages, it is eight annas *per diem* for each man, where it was five annas. The hire of ploughs has actually doubled. In former seasons, it was eight annas a day per plough. Since Saturday last it is a Rupee.

PROVISION FOR THE OUDH SERAGLIO.

WE give the names of the remainig members :—

	Class D.	Rs.
Nawab Jamshed Begam	...	70
" Akhtar Piari Begam	...	70
" Mamulah Begam	...	70
" Rushk Peri Begam	...	70
" Bandi Begam	...	60
" Talabgar-us-Sultan Shaukat-un-Nissa Begam	...	55
" Kaikobad Begam	...	46
	Class E.	
Nawab Afzal Begam	...	65
" Ishk Afroz Begam	...	65
" Huzur Begam	...	65
" Abbasi Begam	...	65
" Janana Begam	...	65
" Khush Kadr Begam	...	65
" Ladu Bai Begam	...	60
" Mehr Rukh Begam	...	60
" Anjuman Afroz Begam	...	60
" Peri Rukh Begam	...	60
" Ghasitun Begam	...	60
" Hazrat Begam	...	60
" Abadi Begam	...	60
" Hyderi Begam	...	60
" Rafik-us-Sultan Wazir Wazir-un-Nissa	...	60
" Rahim-un-Nissa Begam	...	60
" Mahak Peri Begam	...	60
" Namdar Begam	...	60
" Wazir Begam	...	60
" Chamanistan Begam	...	58
" Hadi Begam	...	58
" Khushawaz Begam	...	58
" Umrao Begam	...	60
" Zohra Begam	...	60
" Aghai Begam	...	60
" Sultani Begam	...	60
" Aliya Begam	...	60
" Hormuzi Begam	...	55
" Mahtabi Begam	...	55
" Bismillah Begam	...	55
" Meher Jehan Begam	...	55
" Chundri Begam	...	55
" Rasya Begam	...	55
" Sabza Begam	...	55
" Jhumka Begam	...	50
" Banda Begam	...	50
" Momtaz Begam	...	45
" Malika Begam	...	45
" Kulsum Begam	...	36
" Eedu Begam	...	30
	Class F.	
Nawab Manjli Begam	...	175
" Riaz Ara Begam	...	50
" Dildada Begam	...	50
" Chaman Ara Begam	...	50
" Mahru Begam	...	50
" Khair-un-Nissa Begam	...	50
" Munni Begam	...	50
" Jani Begam	...	50
" Jania Begam	...	50
" Janno Begam	...	50
" Sanjli Begam	...	50
" Nannih Begam	...	50
" Hejat Begam	...	50
" Raihan Begam	...	50
" Sultan Begam	...	50
" Sitara Bakht Begam	...	50
" Oroos Ara Begam	...	50
" Janah Begam	...	50
" Nur Bai Begam	...	50
" Arjamand Begam	...	50
" Nur Jehan Begam	...	48
" Najm-un-Nissa Begam	...	48
" Nathoni Begam	...	48
" Hur Begam	...	48
" Wala Begam	...	48
" Ahmadu Begam	...	45
" Nourozi Begam	...	45
" Khorshedi Begam	...	45
" Mah Monir Begum	...	60
" Khana Abadi Begam	...	60
" Paria Begam	...	40
" Makhmura Begam	...	39
" Askari Begam	...	50
" Maliha Begam	...	50
" Sharaf-un-Nissa Begam	...	35
" Jehangir Begam	...	35
" Hilal Abru Begam	...	40

Nawab Jadu Nigah Begam	...	...	40
" Jehan Afroz Begam	...	...	35
" Shikoh Begam	...	...	35
" Allah Jilai Begam	...	...	35
" Khosru Begam	...	...	35
" Sahiba Begam	...	...	35
" Batuli Begam	...	...	35
" Husaini Begam	...	...	35
" Munir Begam	...	...	35
" Amina Begam	...	...	35
" Rakasa Begam	...	...	18
" Khorshid Jemal Begam	...	...	18
" Mushtari Begam	...	...	18
" Soraia Begam	...	...	18
" Sihor Nigah Begam	...	...	18
" Zaman Afroz Begam	...	...	18
" Moti Begam	...	...	18
" Taus Jemal Begam	...	...	18
" Zohra Jemal Begam	...	...	18
" Zainab Begam	...	...	18
" Hosn Jehan Begam	...	...	18
" Nazir Begam	...	...	18
" Zamin Afroz Begam	...	...	18
" Bedr Afroz Begam	...	...	18
" Khor Afroz Begam	...	...	18
" Kamr Afroz Begam	...	...	18
" Sihi Afroz Begam	...	...	18
" Kabk Kheram Begam	...	...	18
" Lala Izar Begam	...	...	18
" Hira Begam	...	...	18
" Chashmi Begam	...	...	18
" Shams Afroz Begam	...	...	18
" Namkin Begam	...	...	18
" Jehandar Begam	...	...	18
" Zuleikha Begam	...	...	18
" Bilkis Begam	...	...	18
" Leili Begam	...	...	18
" Yusuf Jemal Begam	...	...	18
" Pare Khesal Begam	...	...	18
" Gul Rukhsar Begam	...	...	18
" Khaman Abru Begam	...	...	18
" Ruskh Mah Begam	...	...	18
" Khush Nigah Begam	...	...	18
" Ahu Nigah Begam	...	...	18
" Mushk Gesu Begam	...	...	18
" Nazuk Kamar Begam	...	...	18
" Alam Jah Begam	...	...	18
" Gauhar Rez Ilachi Begam	...	...	18
" Shah Morad Gilauri Begam	...	...	18
" Kidar Begam	...	...	18
" Ab Begam	...	...	18
" Abad Begam	...	...	18
" Jehan Begam	...	...	18
" a Begam	...	...	18
" ola Begam	...	...	18
" olah Begam	...	...	18
" Kolah Begam	...	...	18
" Kolah Begam	...	...	18
" ed Kolah Begam	...	...	18
" Khan Begam	...	...	18
" Khan Begam	...	...	18
" Matami Begam	...	...	18
" Ghamgosar Begam	...	...	18
" Zakera Begam	...	...	18
" Mariam Begam	...	...	18
" Nadera Begam	...	...	18
" Zarandaz Begam	...	...	18
" Zarafshan Begam	...	...	18
" Zardar Begam	...	...	18
" Zarpasand Begam	...	...	18
" Saloni Begam	...	...	18
" Mashuka Begam	...	...	18
" Kamranjan Begam	...	...	18
" Makbulan Begam	...	...	18
" Hormuzi Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Araish Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Peari Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Velayiti Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Golab Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Ji Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Tajan Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Nasiban Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Rahiman Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Mehdi Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Abdar Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Amani Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Ziban Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Ilahi Jan Begam	...	...	18
" Safdil Begam	...	...	18
" Musaffa Begam	...	...	18
" Abrasan Begam	...	...	18
Aktar-un-Nissa Khanum	...	...	18
Class G.			
Nawab Benazir Begam	...	...	15
Malika-i-Mokaddassa	...	...	15
Nawab Nur-ul-Hur Begam	...	...	15
" Manjhu Begam	...	...	15
" Hur Talab Begam	...	...	15
" Nur-ul-Kamr Begam	...	...	15
" Nur-ush-Shams Begam	...	...	15

Nawab Zi-Itbar Begam	...	...	15
" Husn Aini Begam	...	...	15
" Syeda Begam	...	...	15
" Sirdar Begam	...	...	15
" Neknihad Begam	...	...	15
" Nurbaz Nagin Begam	...	...	15
" Mah Paikar Begam	...	...	15
" Mehr Paikar Begam	...	...	15
" Shams-oz-Zoha Begam	...	...	15
" Husn Khez Begam	...	...	15
" Khush Ikbal Begam	...	...	15
" Tyaba Begam	...	...	15
" Khush Kirdar Begam	...	...	15
" Ashik Ara Begam	...	...	15
" Ishk Ara Begam	...	...	15
Biggun Sahiba	...	...	15
Amir Khanum	...	...	15
Nawab Sarv-kad Begam	...	...	15
" Rahat Ara Begam	...	...	15
Class H.			
Sekandar Pasand	...	...	15
Chamak Pasand	...	...	15
Dildar Pasand	...	...	15
Mahtab Pasand	...	...	15
Lab Pasand	...	...	15
Mashshur Pasand	...	...	15
Tur Pasand	...	...	15
Morawah Pasand	...	...	15
Sagar Pasand	...	...	15
Martabat Pasand	...	...	15
Sakhawat Pasand	...	...	15
Itat Pasand	...	...	15
Moalla Pasand	...	...	15
Zia Pasand	...	...	15
DISCARDED BEGAM.			
Dulari Begam	...	...	15

TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN INDIA.

I have carefully gone through the article on the above question in a recent issue of your paper, and fully concur with the view expressed therein. In connection therewith, I would like to make a few observations, which I hope will not be out of place, or inopportune. Technical education, especially in an enlightened age like the present, is essentially needed in every respect. Seeing the condition of the respective professions, such as the medical, educational, engineering, legal, &c., a right thinking man, of course who has a grain of sense in him, cannot but agree in the advisability of expanding the scheme into some such substantial shape, which might cope with the demand of the general public. The more it is spread over the country at large, the more will be its beneficial results.

I.—I would advocate the establishment of technical schools in the metropolis and in the heart of the country and in every important town in the mofussil where easy access can be had to railway or other workshops.

II.—Graduates or under-graduates of the University should be required to learn the trade. Either separate institutions might be established by Government or the well-to-do public or an arrangement made by which the Railway Companies would allow their workshops to be visited by students going in for the mechanical profession.

III.—Four schools to be established in close proximity to railway stations and results watched and reported on after a certain time, viz., at Kanchraparah in Bengal, Jamalpur in Monghyr, District Behar, Allahabad in N. W. P., Roorkee in N. W. P., and in places where institutions might be first started.

I would lay particular stress on the opening of such a school at Jamalpur in connection with the Railway workshops, which are the largest in India. The several shops there are divided under the following heads, viz., 1. Erecting. 2. Painting. 3. Carpenter. 4. Fitting. 5. Boiler-making. 6. Tender repairing and constructing. 7. Blacksmiths, Spring-making, Steam Hammering. 8. Rolling Mills. Establishment for rolling bar iron of sizes, 9. Turning. 10. Foundry for making general castings. 11. Lamp-making and Coppersmith's shops. Besides there is a large Mechanical Drawing Office. I think it can be said without the smallest shadow of doubt that if schools were established for imparting technical education in addition to theoretical or general education, the result would be a great success.

Mr. Editor, as in this very important matter you have set the ball rolling, I hope other able and influential men like yourself will speed it in its flight and not impede its course, until it has arrived at its goal and brings about the consummation of our desire. It will, I am certain, be the means of removing a deal of poverty and distress which is now prevalent in the land, and create an opening for the utilization of talent and genius which is now lying dormant for want of a suitable field for its operation. Let Government be up and doing, and let the Reises, Rajahs and Croresuses of the country open their purse-strings for such a laudable undertaking, and in return they will reap the good of the country and the raising of its people from a state of poverty and degradation to one of ease and respectability.

Jamalpur, the 27th July 1888.

EMERALD THEATRE

BEADON STREET.

Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.

Saturday—the 4th August, 1888—
at 9 P. M.

Third performance of the new melo-drama

Nundo-Biday,

Masterpiece of pathos and poetry.

The piece begins with exquisite pastoral songs !
Wonderful illusion !

Sreekrishna appears in a halo of light and dis-
solves in thin air.

The marvellous decapitation scene !

Nymphs coming out of opening lotuses !

Loud Harisankirtan !

Heart-rending lamentation of Nundo and
Jashoda !

The reunion of Radha and Krishna !

Next day—Sunday—5th August
at Candle Light.

MAGIC STATUE

AND

THE EXILE OF SITA.

The printed copies of "Nundo-Biday" are
now ready for the intending purchasers at a
moderate price of eight annas per copy.

M. L. SUR, Asst. Manager.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

The following subscriptions have been re-
ceived :—

	Rs.
Amount already advertised...	59.947
Rajah Baidya Nath Pundit, of Killa	
Darpan, Cuttack	50
Prince Wahid Ali Mirza	50
Sayed Ashrafuddin Ahmed, Secy. to the	
National Mahomedan Association,	
Hooghly	10
Maharaja Girija Nath Roy Bahadur of	
Dinajpore	500
Baboo Bejoykissen Mookerjee	50
Total	60.607

Further subscriptions are invited, and will be
duly acknowledged in the papers.

PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJEE,

AMIR ALI,

S. E. J. CLARKE,

Honorary Secretaries.

Calcutta, 21st July, 1888.

The Empress of India Cotton Mills Company, Ltd.

Proceedings of the Twenty-second Ordinary
Half yearly General Meeting of Shareholders
of the Empress of India Cotton Mills Com-
pany, Limited, held at the Registered Office
of the Company, No. 55, Canning Street,
Calcutta, at 3 p. m., on Tuesday, the 31st
July 1888.

PRESENT :

D. B. Mehta, Esq., in the Chair.
Algernon Watkins, Esq.; Hajee Noor
Mahomed Jackeria, Esq.; P. E. Guzdar, Esq.;
Hajee Abdool Wahed, Esq.; Limjee
Dhunjeebhoy, Esq.; Jetha Jaichand, Esq.;
D. C. Sethna, Esq.; C. Rustomjee Sethna,
Esq. by his proxy D. C. Sethna, Esq.; Baboos
Devcurm Ranchore; Gourisunker Tewary;
Mohun Loll, and R. D. Mehta, Esq.

The Advertisement convening the Meeting
having been read, and the Directors' Report
and Accounts circulated among the Share-
holders being taken as read, the following Re-
solutions were proposed :—

RESOLUTION I.

Proposed by D. B. Mehta, Esq., and second-
ed by Jetha Jaichand, Esq.,—

That the Directors' Report be adopted, and
that the Accounts for the half-year ending 30th
June 1888, as audited and circulated to the
Shareholders, be also adopted, and passed as
correct, and satisfactory; and that the action
of the Board in regard to Fire Insurance as
mentioned in their Report is also approved.

Carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION II.

Proposed by Algernon Watkins, Esq., and
seconded by Limjee Dhunjeebhoy, Esq.,—

That a Dividend at the rate of Rs. 20 per
share, free of Income Tax, for the Half-year
ending 30th June 1888, be now declared pay-
able on and after 1st August 1888, and that the
balance of the profits be dealt with as recom-
mended by the Directors in the first paragraph
of their Report.

Carried unanimously.

With a vote of Thanks to the Chair the Meet-
ing adjourned.

D. B. MEHTA,
Chairman.

Dividend Warrants are now ready for issue.

NOTICE.

Letters of administration to the estate and
effects of Brojonauth Dhur, late of No. 2, Sa-
gore Dhur's Lane, in the Town of Calcutta,
bullion merchant deceased, were granted by the
High Court of Judicature at Fort William in
Bengal in Testamentary and Intestate Juris-
diction, on the 27th of July instant, to his
widow Srenuttu Busunto Kumary Dasi.

SWINHOE & CHUNDER,
Attorneys for the administratrix.

9, Old Post Office Street,
Calcutta, 30th July 1888.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to an order,
and decree of the Calcutta High Court Ori-
ginal Civil Jurisdiction made in suit No. 130 of
1886 [wherein Sharat Chunder Mitter was
plaintiff and Lall Behary Dey was defendant]
and dated respectively the 18th of April 1888
and the 27th of May 1886 by the Registrar of
the said Court in his sale-room at the said
Court House on Saturday the 25th day of
August next at 12 O'clock noon the following
property :—

Lot 1.—All that piece of land together
with the brick-built pucca house erected there-
on situate at and being No. 24 formerly No. 19
Shambazar Street Calcutta measuring about
16 cottahs and bounded on the North by
Shambazar Street on the East partly by the
house of Wooma Churn Chatterjee late of
Ramrooder Soor and partly by the house of
Ramtonu Chatterjee on the South by the
house and tank of Kristo Mohun Biswas de-
ceased and on the West by the house of Gopee
Nauth Moitra.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale
may be seen at the office of the Registrar High
Court or at the office of Mr. N. C. Bose
attorney for the plaintiff at No. 3 Hastings'
Street on any day before the day of sale and
will be produced at the sale.

R. BELCHAMBERS,
Registrar.

N. C. Bose,
Plaintiff's Attorney
High Court
Original Side.

The 12th July 1888.

Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

ASSAM LINE.

This Company which has a weekly Service
of Steamers running to and from Debrooghur
via Goalundo, will despatch the Steamer
"ORISSA" for Assam on Friday the
10th inst.

Cargo will be received at the Company's
Godowns at Jaggannath Ghat on Thursday
the 9th inst.

The Steamer "MAKUM" will leave Goal-
undo for Assam on Friday, the 10th inst.

Intending passengers by the mentioned
Steamer should leave Calcutta for Goalundo
by train the previous night.

DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

Through Booking to and from Assam.

The Despatch Steamers of this Service
leave Dhubri daily on arrival of the Mails
from Calcutta, and proceed to Debrooghur,
stopping at all intermediate stations and
Mookhs.

Passengers, Goods, Parcels (packages not
to exceed one ton in weight or 8 feet by 4 feet
by 4 feet in measurement) may be booked
through to and from Calcutta, and all stations
on the Eastern Bengal State Railway and
connected Railways, and the following
Steamer Stations of this Company, viz.,
Dhubri, Goalparah, Gauhati, Mungledye,
Tezpor, Silghaut for Koliabar, Dhunsiri
Mookh, Niggriting, Kookeela Mookh, Desang
Mookh and Debrooghur.

Packages booked as parcels will be forward-
ed by rail along with the Mails. Freight on
perishable articles must be prepaid.

GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH SERVICE.

Special fast single-handed Steamers, which
have been specially built for the Assam Trade,
carrying passengers and coolies between
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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
(the last of the Nawabs of Bengal,
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the quotations at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paralied. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? No! the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—*The Indian Magazine*, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1888.

No. 336

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

ODE ON A NEAR PROSPECT OF ETON COLLEGE. THE SHADE OF DR. HAWTREY SPEAKS.

WAKED from my sleep on thy dear breast,
Etona, by some strange unrest
Thy hallowed stones I tread;
Beholding startled, sad, dismayed,
The spot wherein my boyhood played,
My manhood ruled as Head.

A narrower, less pellucid air
Pervades thy courts and cloisters, where,
Scholars and gentlemen,
Of ampler thought, serener brow,
di' a'ftheros lamprotátou
ábros 'ebáfnomen.*

From these generations gone

Our hissing tongues to raise
Hoes of those deathless lays,
Of the golden days
Of Athens and of Rome.

Vanished is now that heavenly Choir;
The thoughts that burn, the poet's fire
A colder age disdains;
The mighty roll of Homer's verse
Gives way to German, French, or worse,
And Prose triumphant reigns.

Strange studies whose outlandish name
My shuddering lips refuse to frame
The place of Classics fill;
Long Chamber is improved away,
King's Scholars gownless now may stray;
The Brewery is still.

To "Absence" oft, to chapels more,
To schools far longer than of yore
Thy sad Alumni flock;
More frequent "Pœnas" to be done,
More stern commands to "Come at one,"
And—shade of Keate, forgive them!—none
To worship at the block!

These changes, to an Eton mind
So rude, so needless and unkind,
I might perchance condone,
If but the Vandal's ruthless hand
Would let thine ancient buildings stand,
Would leave thy walls alone.

* These are two lines of Greek which for want of appropriate type we give in the Roman character. The spirits are still an insurmountable difficulty.—Printer.

But not the whirlwind of reform
E'en Upper School must wreath in storm,
And desolation spread
O'er those old panels that enshrine,
Column on column, line on line,
The memories of thy dead.

What stories could those panels tell
Of sons of thine, who, through the spell
And magic of thy name,
In England's victories have bled,
Her fortunes ruled, her senates led,
O'er Letters, Art, Religion, shed
The lustre of thy fame!

The Library whose precincts yield
Some quiet hours from stream and field,
Whose wealth of lettered lore
Was mine to cherish and adorn,
Must know its place!

That home which Savile, Keate, and I,
Found good enough in days gone by,
Is this too doomed to fall,
And in one common ruin blend
Each old familiar gabled friend
Whose roofs in dear disorder trend
Down to the Sacred Wall!

If gentle Henry's holy shade
But dreamed the havoc to be made,
Not e'en the crack of doom
Would in more consternation call
His statue from its pedestal,
His spirit from its tomb!

Sons of our Gracious Mother, wake!
Ere yet the billows o'er her break,
Roll back the rising tide;
That unborn ages may behold
On her high banner's blazoned fold
"Esto perpetua," still enrolled
The motto of her pride!

R. M. T.

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NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ON the 23rd July, Corporal McTaggart, of the King's Dragoon Guards, in endeavouring to quiet a disturbance in the regimental bazaar, struck one of the rioters. The man followed the Corporal and struck him with violence from behind, with a heavy blow from a club. McTaggart fell prostrate, but this did not satisfy the fellow's vengeance, who went on belabouring the poor corporal till two policemen rescued him and removed him to hospital. The assaulter was arrested.

WE read—

"Mr. Le Fanu, the new Collector of North Arcot, has reduced two sub-magistrates to posts on Rs. 20 per month for a gross miscarriage of justice, a tahsildar has been reduced to be a sub-magistrate, and a taluq sheristadar to be a revenue inspector."

These beggars must be ultra-sub-Magistrates. The pretence of payment may as well be dispensed with. The much despised "unpaid" are a better agency for justice than the paid magistracy.

THE *Morning Post* thus notices some recent mistakes in Indian names committed in the English press:—

A few days ago we noticed the ludicrous mutilation of Sir Theodore Hope's name by the English papers. We have another instance in the case of Sir T. Madhava Rao, who is referred to by several home journals (in connection with the report of the National Congress, which has been so widely discussed) as Sir T. "Mandesar" Row, Sir T. "Mandora" Row, and Sir T. "Madrasa" Row. More curious still is the manner in which the English press has wrestled with the name of the individual who is charged with abducting two Italian girls. He figures variously as the Prince de Chandernagore, which is right, "Chundermugger," Chandernagga, Chandermajor, and Chanderbanger, which are not quite correct.

THE City of Peace is famous for its discordant elements, and is hardly without an agitation of a kind. The present sensation is over an incident characteristic of the life of peace led by the citizens. The matter has gone to court before the local Magistrate, in the shape of a prosecution by a valuable person on his own precious person table to the phy. so many years.

At the Fort Police Mahomed Esar order to extort money from the Jains.

THE widowed Empress Victoria of Germany will henceforth be known as the Empress-Queen Frederick. We cannot approve of the choice for our bereaved Imperial sister. Having so recently lost her lord and the crown, she hardly cares for the *bagatelle* of an empty title. But the Empire of the learned Germans ought certainly to exhibit a better example of philological propriety. A male name united to a noun feminine is Gothic absurdity.

ALL Ministers of religion, licensed to solemnize marriages under the Indian Christian Marriage Act XV of 1872, are to be Registrars of Births and Deaths, under Act VI of 1886, (which comes into force on the 1st October 1888) for their respective congregations, and in respect of all persons for whom they may perform the offices of baptism or burial. And all Sub-Registrars under Act III of 1877 are to be *ex-officio* Registrars of Births and Deaths under Act VI within their respective jurisdictions, both in regard to all persons affected by the Act other than those professing the Christian religion, and to all Christians who may apply to them for registration. The Registrar of Assurances, Calcutta, is also appointed a Registrar of Births and Deaths, within the Town of Calcutta, and authorised to exercise concurrent jurisdiction with Christian Ministers of religion.

IT is announced, on the authority of the Madras correspondent of a Bombay journal, that about 3,500 ounces of gold—the results of the crushing operations of June—have been despatched from Kolar last week via Bombay to London. The total yield from all the Kolar fields, from the commencement to date, is 54,000 ounces, worth £2,10,000. The Peninsular and Oriental steamers having for the present discontinued calling at Madras, the gold is now sent insured by the post office, by train, to Bombay, instead of to Madras, as before.

AN attorney of the High Court, Jogender Chunder Mookerjee, and associated in business with the Hon'ble Kallynath Mitter, has committed suicide. He chose a vacant house belonging to a relative, and taking charge of it in the absence of the Durwan who went to his master on business, bolted the door from inside and "lifted his guilty arm against his own sacred person." An empty phial smelling hydrocyanic acid was found by his side and a piece of paper with the word "Suicided" in his own hand.

THE new Chinese Act for New South Wales has been assented to. It provides that

"the Government is indemnified for its past actions. The naturalisation of Chinese will in future not be allowed, and all Chinese leaving the colony, except those naturalised therein will, on returning, be subject to the provisions of the Act. The number of Chinese to be brought to the colony by any single vessel is not to exceed the proportion of one Chinaman to every three hundred tons of burden. The poll tax is fixed at 100%, and the penalty for evasion at 50%. No Chinese arriving after the passing of the Act will be allowed to engage in mining without the authority of the Minister of Mines. Chinese who may have been born British subjects are not affected by the Bill."

WHILE there are so many as 10 Bengalee Civilians, *vis.*, Messrs. Satyendra Nath Tagore, Behari Lall Gupta, Romesh Chunder Dutt, Anandaram Barua, Brojendra Nath De, Krisna Gobinda Gupta, Lokendra Nath Palit, A. Goodeve Chuckerburty, Basanta Kumar Mullick and Atul Chunder Dutt, the first of whom is in Bombay, there are in the Western Presidency 1 Hindu, 3 Parsee and 1 Mahomedan, *vis.*, Sripad Babajee Thakur, Carsetji Rustomji, K. J. Badshaw, Muncherjee Pestonjee Kharaghat and Moshin Tyebji. It is a pity that Madras should have had none—the one she had Mr. Ratna V. Chetti having died about 12 years back. We are most glad, therefore, that a Madras Mr. Vengal V. Chetty has successfully passed the Civil Service Examination.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 4th August 1888 amounted to £4754,100.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 4th August 1888 amounted to £4754,100.

ONLY one student—Hindu—has passed the B. E. Examination in the second division, and four—two Christians and two Hindus—as L. E. in the 2nd Division.

MR. J. WARE EDGAR, C. S. I., having thoroughly recovered, has cancelled his leave and rejoined his place as Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government. He is now in Calcutta.

THE Hon'ble T. T. Allen, Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, having been granted three months' leave, Mr. C. B. Garrett, District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs, acts for him, Mr. H. Beveridge takes up the duties of the District and Sessions Judge, while Mr. J. F. Bradburry performs the duties of the Additional Sessions Judge in addition to his own as Temporary Additional District Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs.

MR. G. A. G. SHAW, Executive Engineer, Circular and Eastern Canals Division, officiates as Under-Secretary, Government of Bengal, in place of Major A. D. McArthur, absent on deputation, Mr. C. Taylor acting for Mr. Shaw.

DEPUTY Superintendent Lieutenant-Colonel S. H. Cowan acts as Superintendent of the Calcutta Survey, during the absence, on leave, of Lieutenant-Colonel W. Barron.

MR. L. PALIT succeeds Kumar Gopendra Krishna in the Sealdah Magistracy.

BABOO Gopal Hari Mullick, Assistant Superintendent of Police, has been allowed to act as District Superintendent of Police, Monghyr, in succession to Lieutenant-Colonel R. M. Ramsay, on leave.

THE Hon'ble Chunder Madhub Ghose has obtained one month's privilege leave from the 10th instant.

SIR FREDERICK R. HOGG, C.S.I., K.C. I.E., Director-General of the Post Office of India, goes on privilege leave for three months from the 21st instant, Mr. A. U. Fanshawe, Post Master General, Bombay, officiates as Director-General, and Mr. W. P. Symonds as Post Master General of Bombay.

MR. J. G. CORDERY, C.S.I., Resident at Hyderabad, has retired from the post from the 13th ult., when his leave expired. His services are now at the disposal of the Home Department.

MR. P. NOLAN is deputed on special duty to report on the advisability of emigrating coolies from Bengal and Assam to Burma.

THE death of Mr. Brind, Assistant Commissioner in the Shwebo District, Upper Burma, on the 25th July, is attributed to accidental drowning.

MAJOR-GENERAL W. W. LYNCH, C.B., Commanding the Allahabad Division, died at Allahabad, on the 4th instant, of cholera, and was buried with full military honors the next morning.

THE English Government has refused to subsidise the proposed Australian expedition to explore the Antarctic Seas.

THE cash-keeper of Messrs. Orr and Sons, Madras, has been sentenced to 7 years' labor for embezzlement of Rs. 10,000.

THE Mahomedans of Bombay in two public meetings have decided not to respond to the call to the National Congress to be held at Allahabad.

ANOTHER case of Torture by Lambert's Own! At the Alipore Criminal Sessions, the Police Jemadar Dutta Doyal and a constable of the Alipore have been sentenced respectively to 10 years' and one year's imprisonment for extort confessions. Mohan Ghose defended the prisoners.

SH BISWAS has been appointed Junior Government Pleader in place of Babu Bipradas Banerjee resigned. But why is the resignation? Has the legal conscience of the Babu succumbed to natural conscience?

THE Brahminy bull is no property for which a charge of theft will lie—such is the verdict of the Allahabad High Court. The Punjab Chief Court, however, holds a different opinion. It has recently sentenced three persons to three months' imprisonment each for destruction of the sacred animal.

MAJOR SCOTT, of the Gunpowder Factory, Ichapur, having obtained Government leave for one year, applied to the North Barrackpore Municipality, of which he is the head, for a similar privilege. The Commissioners, though willing, did not see their way to oblige the Chairman. They could, they said, under an interpretation of the law, overlook the absence of the Major for the said period or rather permit him to absent himself from the meetings of the Commissioners, and thus enable him to retain his Commissionership, but they found no authority to grant the leave asked for. Major Scott consequently resigned. The Commissioners then proceeded to elect his successor and they have fixed upon Mr. Keddie of the Shamnugger Mills. There was a proposition to elect Babu Surendranath Banerjee but the votes in his favor fell short of those for Mr. Keddie. Mr. Banerjee, to cover his discomfiture in his native town and recover countenance, next proposed the Vice-Chairman, who, however, with thanks to the Babu for the compliment, declined to stand.

JOHN VATHACUDDY, a widower, employed in the Wesleyan Mission in Kalutara, Ceylon, charged a boy, V. Thambyah, aged nineteen, with making him believe that he Thambyah had arranged a marriage for the widower with the boy's brother Nagalingam's daughter, whereas

he meant his own sister, and further with criminal breach of trust by misapplication of Rs. 243 and some other moveable property entrusted to him. The Magistrate of Kaits found the charges true and committed the boy. The District Judge of Jaffna, agreeing with the committing Magistrate, sentenced Thambyah to one year's labor on both the charges. The Supreme Court, however, was of a different opinion, and, on appeal, set aside the conviction. The acting Puisne Justice, Mr. A. C. Lawrie, found the second charge not proved and considered Vathacuddy a fool to have believed the boy to have authority to arrange the marriage when the father of the bride was living. We quote the Judge's own words :

"The complainant says he made no inquiries about the girl, he did not know whether she was a Christian or a Sivite, nor whether she was to have a dowry or was penniless, and in this state of ignorance as to everything about his future bride, he went to Kaits.

The District Judge has found it proved that the accused led the complainant to believe (and induced him to go to Jaffna on the understanding) that he would be given the daughter of Nagalingam in marriage—that may be true, but the complainant knew well that the accused, a mere boy, had no power to bind his brother or his brother's daughter, nor does he say that anything more than a hope or expectation that the marriage would be arranged was held out. When the complainant arrived at the proposed bride's village, his appearance or manners do not seem to have pleased the relations and they would not consent. This was not the accused's fault. The accused indeed tried to do his best—tried to do too much for the complainant; for finding that the marriage with his niece could not be arranged, he wished to secure for him his own sister as a bride—there is nothing in the evidence to show that this lady was less eligible, less educated, less attractive than Nagalingam's daughter. I do not understand why the complainant who was willing to marry one lady whom he had never seen and knew nothing of, should have hesitated to marry another lady of the same family about whom he was equally ignorant."

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE House of Commons has passed the Special Commission Bill to enquire into Parnellism by a majority of 116 votes. The Irish members would not vote one way or the other. Many amendments were proposed by them but they were not accepted. Amendments proposed by the Home Secretary empowering the Commission to arrest persons failing to obey a summons and punish them for contempt were, however, carried. The Commission constituted as near a court as necessary.

THE Select Committee on the Deccan Mining Company have presented their report. It is disappointing enough. Reuter reports:—

"August 4.—The report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the Deccan Mining Company's Concession was presented to the House of Commons last night. The report shows that the Company has now about 700 shareholders, and that 85,000 fully paid up shares were issued, of which 55,000 were sold to the public. The Commission does not express any opinion regarding the prospects of the Company, but mentions that 150 tons of coal are being raised weekly, and fine diamonds found. The Commission absolves Lord Lawrence, as it is of opinion that he acted in perfect good faith. It admits the competency of the Company to transfer shares to the Concessionaires, but doubts whether the same was the result contemplated by the Nizam's advisers. It suggests that the British Government might have given to the Nizam more effective advice and assistance. The Commission does not doubt the expediency of working the coal fields, &c."

"August 9.—The official report of the Select Committee on the Deccan Mining Company confirms the forecast telegraphed on the 4th instant. It also considers that there was no deficiency in the remuneration which had been given them (the Concessionaires) for their previous services that entitled them to the mining concession. The Concessionaires used the concession for the realisation of great gains which were not intended for them, and this was done to the injury of the Nizam's State, with the assistance of Abdul Huk. In conclusion, the report deprecates direct communication between Native States and speculators."

Sir Roper Lethbridge talked of an enquiry to enable officials implicated to clear themselves.

SIR JOHN GORST produced the Indian Budget on the 9th. Mr. Bradlaugh suggested a Committee, including natives, to enquire into the administration of India. Mr. Maclean deprecated the idea as that would raise prolonged and incessant political agitation. He, however, gave out his own recipe for India's good. He would reduce the India Council, limiting the appointment of members to five years.

Sir W. C. Plowden moved, as a measure of economy, an amendment with a view to admit Natives to the highest posts and to favour the suppression of the military commands of Madras and Bombay. It had very scant support and was rejected by 105 against 36 votes.

Burma still continues a drain on the Indian exchequer, and Sir John Gorst explained that the Government expected to be able to impose a

land tax at its full rate within 5 years of the annexation, and that the revenue of Burma was already increasing by £3,00,000.

THE Calcutta Municipal Bill is inadmissible in its present form. It will be remanded. The Viceroy objects to the wording of about half a dozen sections. Whatever the result, Calcutta feels that Lord Dufferin has not treated the people's complaint cavalierly.

LORD DUFFERIN leaves Simla in the middle of November, arrives in Calcutta on the 1st December, makes over charge to Lord Lansdowne on the 8th, and takes his last farewell on the 10th.

THE Government of Bombay has overwhelmed the country with a greater surprise than the arrest of Mr. Arthur Crawford, Commissioner of the Central Division, for his trial before the ordinary criminal courts, by its subsequent revocation of sanction for prosecution and withdrawal of charges. The case was to have come on on the 16th, but on the 9th, on application of the Government solicitor, Mr. Crawford was discharged under sec. 494 of the Criminal Procedure Code. This news is coupled with the further intelligence that Mr. Crawford goes on two years' furlough immediately, preparatory to his final retirement from the Service.

THEY are agitating in the Central Provinces against the proposed transfer of territory to Bombay, to recoup her for the loss of Sind in the event of its being united with the Punjab. A strong memorial, signed by thousands of the residents of the Nagpur division, has been presented to the Chief Commissioner. Others are pouring in from various parts of the Provinces. District Boards and Municipal Committees are passing resolutions to the same effect. A strong feeling exists throughout the Provinces against the proposed abolition of the local Government. There is no reason to doubt the genuineness of the sentiment. In view of the approaching revision of the settlement, the people may well regard with grave concern the possibility of their being brought under the rigorous and uncongenial revenue system of Bombay.

THE long and much-heralded "Ramasami"—an Autobiography of the life and adventures of the depredations of a notorious Manomedan adventurer living in the French territory of Karikal, in the Tanjore District. He has taken to printing and publishing cheap editions of the books most in demand in the District and undersells the Copyright authors or proprietors—whether private individuals or Government. Gradually, he has largely extended his operations, emboldened by the listlessness of Government.

THE Jagat Seth of the Bombay Khojas is dead. A leading Khoja merchant, Dhurmsey Poonjabhoy was constituted "Chowdhuri" over the whole Khoja community of Western India, by His Highness the late Aga Khan, who invested him with the title of *Seth*. The first of the Khojas who was created a Justice of the Peace, he finished with being a member of the committee appointed by Government for drawing up a draft Code of Inheritance for the Khojas. He was an active man of business, respected throughout the mercantile world of Bombay, both native and European. His business was extensive even in Bombay, and on a scale without a parallel among our countrymen on this side. The Dhurmsey Poonjabhoy Spinning Mill at Coorla, which he established and long owned and managed, was, and still is, the largest in India. The management of this great business did not exhaust or engross him, and he got up, one after another, many other companies in the same line. At one time, he managed as many as six separate concerns, including the Dhurmsey Poonjabhoy—now the Swadeshi Mill. We commend the example to the men of Bengal, though we do not wish to see our wealthy youth ruin themselves by embarking in enterprises for which they have no aptitude and for which they have not acquired the necessary knowledge and training.

THE old delusion that the Indians are confined to India or at most Continental Asia, has received a knock-down blow. The Madras Government is advertising the post of a Tamil interpreter for the Supreme Court in Natal. We read in the *Hindu* that a Tamil

Brahman, a graduate, in the service of the Madras Government, has offered his services, not unconditionally though. His young wife has agreed to follow his lord and his fortunes in the distant land, but he is anxious to be sure of a place in the service of his own Government on his return from Natal. He has therefore asked to be admitted of the Statutory Civil Service on coming back, "as an inducement to his voluntary exile of not less than five years, and his example in breaking through caste and local prejudices."

WE take from the *Indian Daily News* :—

"Mr. R. Proctor Sims has been appointed member of the Council of the Thakore Sahib of Bhownugger, in Kattywar. This is the first instance of a European gentleman being placed on a Council of a Native State, and of the appointment at the same time carrying such popular feeling with it. Mr. Proctor Sims, like Mr. R. F. Chisholm and Mr. Stevens, was a Government engineer originally. Mr. Sims has been State Engineer at Bhownugger for many years, and in that capacity has done much useful work. He is now Minister for Public Works, head of the Municipality, Superintendent of Horse-breeding Operations, Superintending and Executive Engineer, Justice of the Peace, General English Secretary, and everything else of public utility to the State. The natives love him as a friend and adjudicator, while the Chief of Bhownugger respects him as a father. Men of this stamp in the British political service would work wonders for the advancement of British rule in India. They might be as successful as Griffins and Corderys."

Here is a veritable Crichton—admirable or not! M. Sims is the very Atlas of officials—a Prince of Pluralists. We fear the Thakore is spoiling him. Mr. Sims's danger lies in the direction of trespassing and overdoing.

It is not only necessary to know the maxim, *Each to his own, Ne sutor &c.*, but also to remember that Hercules himself was restricted to twelve labours.

MR. J. B. PENNINGTON, Madras Civil Service, has given up his appointment in disgust for the strictures passed on his recommendation for remissions of revenue in Tanjore owing to the heavy floods of 1887. There's a dear, dear man, with feelings of a gentleman! Usual officials stick like leeches and show no disposition to drop off after having sucked their fill. Old Billy Pennington, the famous Indian revenue expert, has been a victim of the same. He has been in the service for many years, and has been a most successful official, but he has been forced to resign on account of the determination not to go out, in disregard of all his services, the Service by voluntary action.

THE official who has gone to Ceylon to recover countenance might have spared himself the trouble. It seems he might have found a refuge in the cheap defence of the nation—the unpaid, but not on that account the despised, soldiery of the Empire. We are told that a man who was turned out of the Customs for cheating Government has been made a Captain. What wonder? Our correspondent asks, Are the defenders of the country thieves? We hope not. The matter, at any rate, cannot be so bad. Upon general principles, indeed, one must expect the inalienable drawbacks of cheapness. We are not permitted to look a gift horse in the mouth.

Haji Mirza Hossein Kuli Khan, well-known at Bombay, where he was, for many years, off and on, Consul-General of Persia, has gone to Washington as the Shah's Plenipotentiary in the United States. His place in India has been taken by a Prince of the Blood. Haji Mirza Mahomed Hoosein Khan, who succeeds as Consul-General at Bombay, is a grandson of the late King Fateh Ali Shah, and son of H. R. H. Mirza Mahomed Khan, Foreign Minister.

We well remember Mirza Hossein Kuli Khan who came to Calcutta many years since and took up his quarters at the Parsee Bagan in Circular Road. His appearance is not prepossessing. The Persian expression of suspiciousness was not diluted by the clear Persian complexion. On the contrary, a dark countenance was rendered more sinister by a broad circular scar in each face. How this was caused we did not hear; it looked like a clean cut, by a sharp sword, of a slice off the cheek, suggesting unpleasant visions of cruel Eastern punishments and of the pastimes of royalty. He was a man of ability and even information. He had even then been several times to Europe and spoke and wrote French, but not English. He must have since learnt English.

MR. MACLEAN, M. P. for the *Bombay Gazette*, supplies an anecdote which throws light on the amenities of Parliamentary intercourse. After a late speech that he had been delivering at a county meeting in which he had attacked Mr. Gladstone,

"Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett was accosted in the lobby by a well-known member of the Parnellite Party—not a 'leader,' by the way, as I think even Mr. Lucy would be inclined to admit—with the complimentary salutation 'Ashmead-Bartlett, you are an adjectived fool!' The Civil Lord of Admiralty, who is not a person to be trifled with, was, as may be supposed, extremely indignant, and he warmly replied, 'You are drunk, sir.' The Parnellite member rejoined, 'I tell you, Ashmead-Bartlett, that you are an adjectived fool!' Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, more enraged than ever, said 'Please not to address me, sir, you are drunk.' He spoke with so much vehemence that an ordinary man would have been cowed, but the Irish representative referred to is not an ordinary man; and he was determined to have the last word. 'Yes, I am drunk,' he said, 'and to-morrow morning I shall be sober, but you will still be an adjectived fool!'"

In the go-ahead colonies they would have slanged and damned each other in style, in France Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett would have challenged his tormenter, in America he would have scalped or shot him dead in the floor of the House.

MANY Europeans who might know better allow themselves a cheap satisfaction at the absurdities, real or made to order, of "those native boys, you know." We have much pleasure in presenting to them Master John Bull of famous London town. A very fair specimen of enlightened British boyhood is John Green. A lad of fourteen who had passed the fifth standard at St. Patrick's School, in Stamford-street, he behaved like a very Topsy at a coroner's inquest lately held at Blackfriars. The following edifying dialogue took place between the coroner and the witness—Green, to be sure:—"If you tell a lie, where will you go? Answer: To church.—Do you know where people go when they die? Answer: To church.—If you tell a lie, whom do you offend? Answer: My master (meaning his employer).—Can you repeat the Lord's Prayer? Answer: Only the first part of it.—Who is 'our Father which art in heaven?' Answer: The devil."

That beats all the Niggers—genuine and constructive.

It is a natural curiosity to know how the late successive misfortunes of Germany in the death of her Emperors have been regarded in France. I had to say that the attitude of the French was worthy of the nation's chivalry. Here is a Frenchman's view of Frederick III, the late Emperor of Germany, which may be pretty fairly typical:—

The Emperor Frederick III—who recently died—ascended the throne of the kingdom of Prussia and the Empire of Germany on the 9th March 1888.

He lived 57 years, having been born on the 18th October 1831, but hardly reigned 3 months.

It is scarcely a year since the Emperor Frederick, then Prince Imperial of Germany, was apprised of the gravity of his state. He counted by his medical advisers the chances of recovery; but learning that they were almost nil, said 'Well, I shall await the summons from Heaven.' Since the day in which he pronounced that lofty and melancholy word, his resignation and firmness of mind never failed him. We wish to render to his memory this justice—we who have counted him among the most redoubtable warriors of Germany during the struggle of 1870-71, but who place truth above all things and who know how to appreciate the simple and calm courage wherever it is found. M. de Bismarck, with that intemperance of language and disdain of expediency, which are astonishing in a man of such worth, said one day that the French nation detests the entire country of Germany. He was mistaken. France has sometimes betrayed her temper from anger and contempt, for certain acts and proceedings which were revolting to her most cherished sentiments, but veritable hatred—a hatred cold, persistent, implacable, she rarely feels. Misfortune has dismantled, but heroism still charms her.

If it were otherwise, would she have shown during these last months, so much respect, nay, even sympathy for him who penetrated into our territory in 1870 at the head of our invaders, for him who twice the successful adversary of Marshal Macmahon, gave us the first blow at Reichshoffen and the finishing blow at Sedan? Say if any other people would have so easily laid aside the *souvenirs* so sore!

Fox, in the English Parliament, hearing the death of Pitt—his eternal adversary, forgot 20 years of rivalry, in order to give a free vent to the generosity of his heart and repeated the words of the poet:—

"*Sunt lacrymæ rerum et nintem mortalia tangunt.*"

France has not waited for his death that she might do him justice. She has received few things from him during so short a reign. She has not made him responsible for that odious and grotesque affair of passports about which he must have been insufficiently enlightened. She has not expected from a man whose days were numbered, and whose powers declined every day—the energy both physical and intellectual which would have been necessary to triumph over certain resistance and to stamp on the policy of the German Empire a character veritably new."

THE Lieutenant-Governor is on tour through his territory. To-night, nevertheless, he will sleep in his state bed in his official Palace, having entered it by the backdoor as it were.

There has been no particular record in the papers of the late journey. His Honor was absent a full fortnight, performing the programme previously published. There was perhaps one slight departure only, in that he went to Uluberia. It was understood that the Lieutenant-Governor would not be in the neighbourhood till Friday the 27th. In point of fact, however, His Honor leaving Calcutta the previous day, anchored at its close in the river off Acheepore. The Sub-Divisional officer was equal to the occasion. He immediately altered his arrangements, and, by dint of extraordinary exertions, succeeded in making a grand demonstration. That very afternoon, the town awaited the approach of the Governor's steam launch in holiday attire in the shape of evergreen and bunting. In the evening, all Uluberia was ablaze with light—with a profusion of lamps artfully disposed and combined—lamps in every house and shop, besides two banks of light throughout the length of the populous part of the town shoring the Grand Canal of this Venice *la petite* of Rural Bengal with its architecture of the mud and bamboo order. Next morning, the Lieutenant-Governor landed. There had been no sufficient intimation for getting up an address, but the omission was more than made up by the two interesting little daughters of the Deputy Magistrate, at the head of the leading men, receiving His Honor with a bouquet, in return for which Sir Stuart, with gracious chivalry, kissed the girls.

Proceeding up, His Honor was received by the Tumlook officials and notables at Dainan, on the frontier of the Midnapore District, where a triumphal arch constructed triumphal arch of green leaves and bunting, and the party were received.

One incident of the visit to Midnapore may be mentioned as of an exceptional nature. It is said that a party of native women attempted to approach His Honor in his walk. They were prevented by the Police, but Sir Stuart told his men not to interfere. The poor women approached and handed a petition. His Honor received it, saying he would look into it. They are Hindu *gwalins*—milk women.

WE have to apologise to our readers for the many errors of the press, which, in the haste in which the last number was issued, crept into it. Those in the leaderette on page 305, make sad havoc with the sense. To begin with, "stray thoughts from Bengal" is printed without the inverted commas. In the paragraph of comment on the first long extract, read bleak for black (,) midst for mind (,) gems for genius (.)

A PROFESSOR of the Presidency College was early this week assaulted in his chair by a *punkah* coolie.

BYRON's grand apostrophe to the sea may be read for many years with delight, just as we read without childlike simplicity Greek fairy tales. But his idea of the sea as an impregnable stronghold, impervious to attack by puny man, is now a poetic myth almost of the category of Campbell's wooden walls. Man's power stops no more on the shore than on the bank. Nothing seems to stop it. More than ever the boast of Napoleon holds good that there is no impossibility. Human skill and resources have been demonstrated in a variety of interesting ways. The real wonders of our times have put to the shade the mythical Wonders, and they may be multiplied many times seven. The Atlantic is now practically a Mediterranean Lake between two continents. The stupendous Alps, which stopped the march of the invader to Italy, has been perforated by the railway. And now the steep Cataract of the West is to be—harnessed. The Niagara is to be reduced to work out dividends for a syndicate of money-makers. To put the best face upon the matter, the idea is to utilise a part of the immense power which there has been going to waste for ages. This is one of the boldest schemes yet attempted. "The idea is to construct a tunnel

from the water level below the Falls, about 200 feet under the high bank of the river, extending through the rock of the Upper Niagara River, at a point one mile above the falls, where a head of 120 feet is obtained. The tunnel is then to extend, parallel with the shore of the river, one and a half miles, at an average depth of 100 feet, below the surface of the earth, and at a distance of about 400 feet from the navigable water of the river with which it is to be connected by means of conduits or lateral tunnels. The power is to be obtained from the conduits leading to the main tunnel, and not from the tunnel itself or from the falls. Along the line of the tunnel 238 mills, of 500 horse-power each, can be established. The estimated cost of construction of the tunnel is £6,00,000."

The spirit of lucre could no farther go. What a degradation is in store for all the movements of beauty and grandeur of Nature! But the age of Chivalry is gone, that of economists and calculators is come, and glory and grace and feeling are fled for ever!

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1888.

THE EDUCATION RESOLUTION NO DEPARTURE.

WE hasten to reassure our countrymen and reason with the formators of opinion among them. So far as we know and can judge, there is no change of front in the Government. It is, therefore, no small pity the Resolution on education, recently put forward by the Government of India, in accordance with the orders of the Secretary of State, should have received so signal a misinterpretation from the native press. Some of our contemporaries have understood the Resolution as marking a new departure in the educational policy of the Government, and that henceforth the obligations, which had so long rested on the State with regard to the promotion of education, were peremptorily and suddenly to cease. This view of the Resolution, taken by the native press, has naturally created something like a panic in the mind, and we have seen some of the best educated and most influential officers employed in the educational service itself, talk of the Resolution as ominous of disastrous effects upon the future of, at any rate, the higher education in the country. We must confess we have carefully read the document, and failed to find anything in it to support such an interpretation. It is a clear, comprehensive and masterly exposition of the state and progress of education at the present time, and, in addition, an embodiment of those broad lines of educational policy which have, from the first, guided the State in its dealings with the subject. We find no departure—indeed nothing new—for which there is no warrant in the great Education Despatch of the Court of Directors or the Report of the Education Commission.

The paragraph in the Resolution, which has given rise to the alarming misapprehensions now agitating native society, only reaffirms the old policy, *viz.*, that the efforts of the Government in the matter of education should have for their main object to call forth and develop a spirit of self-help among the people by giving them, through purely Government institutions, a taste for education, and knowledge of its value, so that the Government might gradually retire from the field, provided there was no danger of any disruption to the work from such gradual retirement. This is the fundamental principle of the Education Despatch of 1854, and this principle read in connection with the proviso, is placed by all subsequent State instruments on too secure a basis for any fears of its abandonment now or hereafter. That the Resolution before us contemplates no such abandonment will, we hope, now be obvious, from inter-

preting it with due regard to the proviso. The paragraph in question is as follows:—

"The Government of India recognizes its responsibility to provide, so far as its finances permit, facilities for the education of the people. But in educational, as in all other matters, it is the policy of the Government of India to avoid entering into competition with private enterprise; it pioneers the way; but, having shown the way, it recognizes no responsibility to do for the people what the people can and ought to do for themselves. When, therefore, local effort or private enterprise shows itself able and willing to supply the educational wants of the people in any locality, it is the policy of Government to retire from the field of direct instruction and to help by reasonable subventions of money the operations of independent institutions. Under this policy, it is the aim of the Government also, wherever there is vitality of private effort, to restrict official action to the maintenance of a few schools, in which the system of instruction and discipline shall afford a standard for the emulation of private or aided institutions in the neighbourhood. In pursuance of this policy, the expenditure from Provincial revenues on Government educational institutions should not ordinarily increase in proportion to the total expenditure, but should, rather, be a constantly diminishing quantity, *provided that there is the assurance that the ground abandoned by the Government is occupied by local effort.*"

The proviso which we have italicised ought to be re-assuring. The policy laid down in the above words is no new policy. If it were read in conjunction with a liberal interpretation of this saving clause, we are persuaded, there would not have been all the outcry which has been raised against the Government of India. The paragraph may also be understood in connection with what goes before, and in this connection its innocuousness will be still more apparent. The preceding paragraph only summarises the financial aspect of the subject, and is as follows:—

"Passing from the statistics of attendance at the various classes of Indian Schools and Colleges to the expenditure on education, we find that in 1881-82 the total expenditure on public instruction in India was, in round numbers, 186 lakhs of rupees. Four years later (in 1885-86) the total had risen to 240 lakhs; and last year it stood at a little over 252 lakhs. At the beginning of the five years, the Government bore 73 lakhs of this expenditure, the Local and Municipal funds contributing 167 lakhs, consisting of fees, subscriptions, and other local sources. In the year 1885-86, the Government share had risen to 84½ lakhs, the Local and Municipal funds contributing 167½ lakhs. The share of the public at large, as assigned to Local bodies, however, is not entirely of local taxation, but includes an item of 4½ lakhs contributed by the Government; so that in effect the share of Government stood at about 84½ lakhs. Next year the shares are 84½ lakhs for Government, 49 lakhs for Local and Municipal Boards, and 117½ lakhs for the Public. But of the 49 lakhs expended by Local bodies, 6½ were contributed by Government; so that there has been a progressive increase in the Government expenditure. The Governor-General in Council considers that the growth of the share borne by Local bodies should for the future exhibit a more marked increase than it has done since 1885; and that there should be a tendency to decrease rather than to increase in the share which now is defrayed from the public treasury."

Surely, the whole tenor of the above is far from alarming. All that the Government claims is some slight relief to the exchequer of the State, now that private enterprise and Local Funds have already commenced to bear their fair share of the responsibility for education. The moderation and justice of the claim must be admitted, while it is put forward with no airs of insolence of race or peremptoriness of power—without, indeed, the slightest trace of harshness.

In justice, however, to the native press, we must say that the educational policy of the Government has always been a subject of anxious interest in this country. Our people are remarkably sore on the question, and not unnaturally, with their time-honored traditions of State and feudal endowments for educational purposes. It is scarcely any wonder, therefore, that, whenever there has been any new discussion in official circles of the education policy of the Government, there has been much alarm created amongst our countrymen. The present outcry is by no means the first of its kind.

Nor, perhaps, is the cause of education quite so safe, after all. The proviso is, indeed, very clean,

The world knows nothing of these Bæotian toad-eaters ; but perhaps they are great on that account, for " the world," says

Sir Henry Taylor, "knows nothing of its greatest men." Their names shed no lustre on the roll of Fellows—or, if they shed any, it makes darkness visible. Useful, they are certainly not; neither are they even ornamental. Is it not a simple disgrace to the University that fools who have never done anything anywhere worthy of record or remembrance, should be allowed to rush in where angels fear to tread? It must be said to the credit of some of these fools, that, however overweening their ambition may be, they never aspired to be dons; but they are somebody's darlings who must have kicked them up to a position for which they have absolutely no qualifications. They rose one fine morning and found themselves metamorphosed into *savants*.

But since once a fellow one must continue to be such to the end of the chapter, we must endure, with such grace as we can command, good, bad or indifferent, what cannot be cured. Not that the law stands in the way of the removal of the odd fellows, but that the admission of one's own mistake and rectification of the same require an amount of moral courage with which the Government is not credited. But one thing is needful. We ought to make a supreme effort that the few worthy men there are among the dons, may not be altogether swamped by the noodles. How can we effect our object better than by cutting the evil at the root—by curing the Government of the fatal disease of which it, along with many other Governments of the world, is peculiarly susceptible—we mean the dread of talents—and by "purging its visual ray of the thick film," so that it may not mistake roguery for ability. Agitation—no Surrender Notian agitation to be sure, which, like "a tale told by an idiot is full of sound and fury signifying nothing" and which, as such, passes by the Government as the "gentle breeze which it respects not"—is an omnipotent physician, and we must have recourse to it.

But dunces or scholars, how many of the dons take any interest in matters educational or take part in the 'proceedings of the Senate? How many even of the metropolitan Fellows regularly attend the meetings of the Faculties—not to speak of those that live far off, in the interior of Provinces. But what shall we say of a Government which appoints as Fellows the residents of the remotest parts of the Empire, knowing it for a fact, ~~that~~ indeed they cannot, participate in the deliberations of the Senate, and take any more interest in the affairs of the University than the people of Timbuctoo. It may be news to not a few of the readers of *Reis and Rayyet* that our educational Parliament counts among its members about 30 residents of the N. W. Provinces and Oude, 9 of the Punjab, 3 of Rajputana, 2 of Assam, 1 of Hyderabad, 3 of the Central Provinces, 1 of Bombay, 3 of Burma and 1 of Central India; while so many as about 20 members, though residents of Bengal, living as they do in the country, can render the University no service whatever; of the rest there are not a few who have made a point of having nothing to do with the University, though they will not resign. After all this, who will have the hardihood to deny that the Government makes selection of Fellows not with an eye to service but to honor people with new titles. For now that the schoolmaster is abroad, is there any lack of learned men in Bengal that the Government should go so far as to the scientific frontier of Lord Lytton on one side and the jungly banks of the Irrawady on the other, in quest of men fit to wear the mantle of a don? But it is the day of the publican and sinner, of the lackey and flunkey, of the pander and noodle. There are men—and their name is legion—nearer home who might help in giving tone to the Senate, but they have exactly the talents and acquirements of which bureaucrats are jealous, and some of them may be formidable by genius itself! Or, men like Robert Knight, James Wilson, S. E. J. Clarke, Pratap Chunder Mozumdar, Lal Mohun Ghosh, T. Palit, Umes Chandra Dutt (late professor, Kishnaghur College) Iswar Chandra Mitra, Surendra Nath Banerjee, Prasanna Kumar Laheri, Ashu Tosh Mookerjee, (1st Prem Chand Roy Chand Student,) R. C. Chandra, K. D. Ghosh, K. P. Gupta, Jogendra Nath Bhattacharjee, Dino Nath Sen, Syama Charan Ganguli, Bani Madhab Dey and, last not least, the accomplished poet who will always be remembered as Ram Shurma, would not have been left out in the cold, to the injury of the education of the country.

Now that the representative principle has received recognition in many spheres of public life, and the Acts for the two recent Universities recognise the elective principle in the

composition of those bodies, the Fellows being no longer appointed entirely by nomination but in part also by election, and a bill to the same effect is on the legislative anvil of the Bombay Presidency, why should the affairs of the Calcutta University alone continue to be governed by an Act passed 32 years ago? Has not the march of intellect reached Bengal? Why should the residents of the N. W. P. and Oude and the Punjab continue to be Fellows of the Calcutta University now that they have got separate Universities of their own, and those of the fellows who do not take any interest whatever in the affairs of the University be sent about their business? Why, again, should the ratio of European and Native Fellows in Bengal be 3:2 while that in Bombay is 8:7?

There is another thing in connection with the University which should engage the serious attention of every one interested in the cause of education. If the Calcutta University is an examining body, the Syndics must be taught that they have not been given conscience, "a capability and god-like reason to fust in them unus'd" or it had better cease to exist. What a scandalous farce of an examination we have had for the last few years! We say last few years advisedly, for who knows that the slaughter of the innocents that took place in '85 and '86 and the fact of an unprecedentedly large number of boys having passed in the Jubilee year were not due to the dishonest freaks played by some of the examiners. Some few years ago the Headmaster of the Uttarpara school dragged to light certain scandals, and no less a personage than Principal Sarbadhikari was caught tripping; who knows that there have not been other black sheep in the flocks who have passed off as immaculate because uncaught? But are not the recent revelations in connection with the perfunctory manner in which some of the examiners discharged their duties sufficiently startling to take one's breath away? So many as 8 of them, both European and native—all graduates and professors—assigned marks without reading the answer papers, or marked the answers in a faulty and culpably careless manner! But bad enough, sad enough and disgraceful enough as the statement is, there is another statement, even worse, more sad, more disgraceful, if possible, than these men—men did we say? God made the ~~men~~ let them pass for men—though they had been ~~the~~ the special committee appointed to enquire ~~into~~ report on the matter as ~~by~~ by Messrs. Little and Nasir, the senior examiners—have been reappointed as examiners, on the recommendation of ~~the~~ gentlemen, whose report, like Achilles' spear, ~~at~~ the wound which it inflicts. The Syndicate has not a soul to be saved or a body to be kicked, but how shall we characterize the conduct of Mr. Nash who must be presumed to have both? He is too muscular a Christian to be made a coward of by conscience. He overflows with the milk of human kindness which does credit to him no doubt, but then he ought to know that nothing emboldens sin so much as mercy, and that mercy at the expense of the poor examinees is simply unjust, not to say, wicked and mischievous. Perhaps, the funniest part of the University scandal is the ground offered for tenderness. One gentleman was recommended to be reappointed as an examiner, and why? because, forsooth, he was "fairly careful" when he re-examined the papers!

O judgment, thou art fled to brutish beasts,
And men have lost their reason!

What wonder then that the boys of the period should have deteriorated in morals when not a few of their preceptors, to whose tender mercies they have been committed, are men of such easy virtue and accommodating conscience! Surely, it is time enough for a thorough overhauling, without personal regards. We hope the country will combine in a cry for prompt University Reform.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN INDIA.

Continuing my last *re* technical education, which appeared in your issue of the 4th current, I would further suggest the advisability of opening institutions of the kind named, in the following places, *viz.*, Barakur, Jubbulpur, Rawal Pindi and Lahore.

The first named place has a large workshop, owned by Government, turning out a lot of iron work manufactured there, especially iron castings. It is not unlikely that by and by Barakur will be a junction station, when the Nagpore line is completed.

As we find that a growing tendency amongst men of respectable and literary class to master mechanism somehow or other, it can be safely said, without fear of challenge, that more the scheme is expanded, the more will the aptitude for scientific pursuits be increased, and the country will most decidedly benefit in the end.

Expediency tells us to strongly advocate the cause for furthering the object, seeing the very great improvement made of late years by the lower grade native working classes of the soil, such as "Koiburto," "Manjee," "Sutgoup," "Chandal," and others by practical learning alone. Some of them turn out capital workmen and mechanics, so as to be able to disconnect an engine and put her together, and others handle important parts of machinery and finish them off, in a creditable manner, such as fitting slide valves motions, eccentric sheaves, axle boxes, brasses, &c., and other work too numerous to detail. It is a well known fact that Monghyr is famous for production of a superior class of work, purely made by Behar workmen, such as ebony chairs, *abluc* fancy boxes, sticks of sorts, fans, rifle guns and swords, &c. All these indicate, without the least shadow of a doubt, that had these men theoretical knowledge in addition to the limited practical experience they now possess, they would make much better mechanics.

Under the existing circumstances, notwithstanding that the people now do get liberal English education, there is a general demand for greater field of honorable livelihood. Hence the object of my ventilating the matter, through the medium of your journal, not that my aim is only to seek, for people at large, either the State or Railway service, but I do sincerely advocate for the sake of profession also. Although it is an admitted fact that in the metropolis, its suburbs and other Presidencies, such as Bombay and Madras, the educated and wealthy classes have to a certain extent taken the lead and appreciated the importance of the movement, by establishing mills and factories of their own, and are imparting a speculative taste among the labouring class, however devoid of intellect they may be, yet the country demands a larger field. In fine, I would, once for all, suggest that some means be devised by which the people may be taught liberally, and inducements held out to them. I would recommend

- I. State scholarship to be given according to merit.
 - II. Competitive system to be introduced.
 - III. Some graded appointments to be kept reserved.
 - V. The gulf to be bridged between Indians and Anglo-Indians, as regards education and promotion.
- My desire and wish for, is to see that the country may be benefited, and to create a speculative and professional amongst the mass and respectable class of society, at an early date, the people will reap the benefit of the reference, which will remove a long felt desideratum.

August 1888.

THE KIRKWOOD RESOLUTION.

THE Bengal Government has recorded the following Resolution on the Daniel of Patna :

RESOLUTION.—Judicial,—dated Calcutta, 25th July.

READ No. 87J.D., dated 18th June, 1888, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Registrar of the High Court, Calcutta, with enclosure.

Read No. 1542, dated 7th July, 1888, from the Registrar of the High Court, Calcutta, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

In the correspondence in this case, the Lieutenant-Governor forwarded to the High Court the record of the case of *Empress versus* Guru Churn Dosadh, tried by Mr. Kirkwood, the Sessions Judge of Patna, together with an explanation furnished by Mr. Kirkwood of the reasons which led him to order that Budhia Gawalin, a witness for the prosecution, should be examined by the Assistant Surgeon with a view to testing her virginity, and His Honor remarked that, in his opinion, the facts disclosed were so calculated to bring discredit on the administration of justice that he deemed it necessary to lay the case before the Hon'ble Judges of the Court for their consideration, and to ask for their opinion.

2. Briefly, the facts of the case, as stated, are as follows :—The girl Budhia, an orphan, giving her age as 12 years, was living alone with her cousin Lachman, aged 20. Lachman's wife was not living with him, and Budhia, though married, had not yet gone to live with her husband. On her return one day to her house, she found the door off its hinges, and, looking in, observed that two brass vessels had been stolen from it. She then proceeded along the lane in which her house stood, into an adjoining thoroughfare, and there discovered the accused, whom she had not previously known, carrying off the vessels. Thereupon she gave him in charge to a constable who was at hand.

The defence of the accused, Guru Churn, was to the effect that he had just been released from jail, and that the policeman had seized him as an old offender, and, taking him to the girl's house, had then procured brass vessels, and fabricated the charge against him.

3. It appears that in the course of the trial, the girl's statement and demeanour caused Mr. Kirkwood to entertain doubts of her chastity. He argued to himself that if she was not really chaste, it might be concluded that she was not a credible witness; and that it was highly probable that in some way her want of virtue was mixed up

with the origin of this complaint.' Adopting this line of reasoning, he caused her to be examined by the Assistant Surgeon to ascertain whether she was or was not a virgin. The girl did not resist or protest against the examination ordered by the Court, though she wept when the Assistant Surgeon gave evidence unfavourable to her chastity. Accepting this evidence, Mr. Kirkwood summed up unfavourably to the prosecution, and the jury acquitted the prisoner.

4. The opinion of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court on the case is to the effect that Mr. Kirkwood's action in ordering the medical examination of the girl was illegal, and does not admit of justification. They point out what the law of the matter is, and that, even in a charge of concealment of birth (where an examination may be properly deemed to be of the highest relevance), it has been laid down that, 'unless the girl consented, the examination was an assault, illegal and unjustifiable,' and that in this respect 'neither Magistrate, nor policemen, nor medical men may infringe on the rights of any person.' The Court have no doubt that Mr. Kirkwood acted in good faith, believing that what he did was necessary for the ends of justice; but as a Judge, he ought, they say, to have known the law, and even if he had possessed the power which he thought he possessed, it would have been a grave indiscretion in him to exercise it. They consider his conduct reprehensible in a high degree, and as that conduct has, in their opinion, tended to bring the administration of justice into discredit in the district of Patna, they think that he ought not to be allowed to remain Judge of that district.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor fully concurs in this severe censure of Mr. Kirkwood's proceedings. His Honor regrets that Mr. Kirkwood should, after several years of praiseworthy judicial work, have, at the close of his career, displayed such grievous indiscretion and caused such a lamentable scandal. As, however, Mr. Kirkwood has applied for permission to retire from the Service, it is unnecessary for the Lieutenant-Governor to consider the question of the punishment to which he would otherwise have been liable.

By order of the Lieut.-Govr. of Bengal,
COLMAN MACAULAY,
Offg. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal."

Labw.

THE JAIN CASE.

SURUJ KUMARI BIBI vs. LAB CHAND SETT.

Mr. Justice Norris delivered the following judgment of the Appeal Court consisting of himself, the Chief Justice Sir Comer Petheram and Mr. Justice Beverley, in this case :—

The facts out of which this appeal arises may be shortly stated as follows : One Culloomull Sett, who died in August 1885, made a will by which he appointed his brother Dhanook and Foolchand Johurry his executors. The executors obtained probate, and the executrix, Muni Bibee, was appointed the survivor, and obtained probate. Both the executors died, and the executrix, Muni Bibee, namely, on the 28th of May 1887, died, and on the 7th November 1887, Lab Chand applied for letters of administration with the will annexed. He alleged in his petition that the estate of Culloomull had not been fully administered and alleged that he was the only adopted son of one Nuthmull who was the only son of Culloomull deceased; that is to say, he alleged he was the grandson of the deceased. A caveat was entered by Suruj Kumari Bibi, I think, in May 1887, but shortly after letters of administration and probate were granted; and she opposed the grant of letters of administration to Lab Chand Sett, alleging that she was the only widow of Dhanook Dass the brother of the testator and one of the executors, that Labchand had not been duly adopted as the son, and that in the event which has happened there was an intestacy as to the estate of Culloomull, and that the property at his death vested in her husband Dhanook Dass and on his death in her as his widow.

On the caveat coming on for argument before Justice Trevelyan, that learned Judge framed the following issue :—

"Has the caveatrix Suruj Kumari Bibee any and what interest in the estate of the testator Kuloomul Sett deceased, and is she entitled to contest the right of Labchand Sett to obtain letters of administration *de bonis non* with the will annexed to the estate and effects of the testator?"

Then in answer to her caveat it was contended that Dhanook Dass had adopted a son, Puddumchand, and that in consequence he was heir to Culloomull Sett if Culloomull had died intestate, and that therefore the lady has no interest or no sufficient interest to come in and contest the right of Labchand to the letters of administration. To these the lady replied to this effect : "Even supposing my husband had adopted a son according to the local customs of the Oswal caste of the Sitembari community of the Jains, I am heir to my husband's brother." The parties went to trial upon this issue; and upon it Trevelyan J. says as follows :—

"During the course of this trial, in consequence of an objection taken to some evidence, I found it necessary to express my opinion of what I thought was the meaning of an issue of the description, and I am bound to say that, on a more careful consideration, I am more fully impressed with the view I then took. As I understand

a proceeding of this kind, and if I understand sec. 23 of the Probate and Administration Act which governs this case, I must grant administration to the next of kin of the deceased. Primarily the next of kin are entitled to letters of administration, and, as I understand this issue, it is not only an issue as to whether she has any interest, but I have also to decide whether she is entitled to contest the right of Labchand Sett to letters of administration. As far as I know, no person is entitled to contest a claim to letters of administration, unless he has a prior right, and if this lady is not next of kin, it follows she is not entitled to contest the application. The question whether she is next of kin, depends upon whether she or Puddumchand is entitled to succeed to the estate of the deceased. The question of Labchand's adoption has not been gone into here and has been postponed to the decision of the case. The lady admits nothing, and the adoption is disputed. It was contended in the course of the trial, that I could not go into any evidence as to Puddomchand's adoption, and it was said that, independent of that the lady has a right to the estate. It seems to me, if Puddomchand is the heir of the deceased, this lady can have no interest in the estate, and therefore would not be entitled to contest the right of Labchand."

Now it has been argued before us in the first instance, on behalf of the appellant, by Mr. Pugh, that the learned Judge was in error in setting this down as a contentious cause before deciding the issue which he framed. But I think it is practically admitted while the point is taken, that it would really amount to nothing more than a question of form and does not touch the merits of the case. The second objection taken is that the learned Judge was wrong in the view he took of the right of the lady to appear and contest the grant of letters of administration. This may be and probably is the case, that the learned Judge in the court below was wrong in the view he took of the rights of the parties to come in and contest the grant of letters of administration. What Mr. Pugh seeks to do now is that by the laws and local customs of a particular caste of a particular sect of Jains, to which this family belongs, she was the next of kin; that she had an interest in the estate and entitled to contest the grant of letters of administration. It is now sought to take a view, it may be arising out of the grounds which were taken in the court below, but an entirely different view on grounds which were not taken in the court below. He says, "Assuming for the sake of argument that I have no ground on which I can rely, yet I have a right to maintenance out of this estate which would come into the hands of my husband's adopted son; and if I have a right to maintenance out of the estate, I have a sufficient interest to see that the estate does not go into the hands of any other party, that case is not a case which

arises upon the facts, and that the subsidiary case ought not to be made now for the first time in this court, and we say further that if Mr. Pugh's contention is right, on which we express no opinion, it will be open to him to raise the point in one of two ways: He may either sue the parties in whose hands the estate is and get that right of maintenance declared, or it is open to him, I presume, to apply for letters of revocation of the probate of the will.

Then the learned Judge proceeded to try two questions of fact: first of all whether Puddumchand was the legally adopted son of Dhunsook Dass, and secondly whether Suruj Kumari Bibi had proved the legal custom which she alleged; and he found first of all that the adoption of Puddumchand was proved and proved by the brother of the caveatrix, Situl Persad Johurri, and secondly he found that the alleged custom was not proved. The evidence which was adduced to prove the custom as far as Suruj Kumari was concerned, was the evidence of Situl Persad, who produced two copies of the written law of the Jains as contained in two old manuscript books of the Jains, and the learned Judge seems to have been of opinion that if these books were to be relied upon, he was prepared to rely upon them that they were authorities for the proposition that amongst the Jains the widow succeeds to her husband's estate before the son. I have looked at the evidence and considered it and what it seems to me to amount to is this: that these Pandits are of opinion, and their opinion was corroborated by references to these old books, that amongst the Jains, at the time these books were written, the Jain widow occupied a somewhat higher position than a Hindu widow occupies, and that her estate, whatever it was, appears to be somewhat larger than the estate of a Hindu widow, but that estate was limited and was enjoyed by her before the son took. Trevelyan J. went on to say that though there was the opinion of the Pandits who were called, and though that opinion was corroborated by the books, he found as a matter of fact that the practice amongst the Jains of the present day was entirely opposed to the precepts contained in those books. He found upon the evidence instances of the son sharing whilst the mother was living.

Upon a consideration of the whole of the evidence, the details of which it is not necessary to enter into, he was of opinion that the local usage as alleged by the caveatrix, was not proved. With the conclusion at which that learned Judge has arrived, we entirely concur. It might be distinctly understood that in dismissing this appeal with costs, we are expressing no opinion as to what the law or customs or usages, amongst this particular sect of the Jains, may be; all we say is that we agree with the learned Judge in the court below and we find that the caveatrix did not succeed in proving the local usages on which she relied. The appeal must be dismissed with costs.

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NOTICE.

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Lot No.	Nature of land.	Area more or less.	K.	Ch.	S. ft.
1	Vacant land and pucca go-downs at No. 48 Jaun Bazar Street north of Tal-tola Square	5	8	0
2	Land at do. east of Tal-tola Square ...	...	3	2	0
3	Ditto ditto ...	...	2	6	0
4	Ditto ditto ...	...	3	0	0
5	Do. portion of No. 33 Rutton Sircar's Garden St.	...	4	11	0
6	Do. with buildings being portions of Nos. 15 and 16 Sickdarpara Lane ...	...	2	1	20
7	Do. and tiled huts being remaining portion of No. 4 Sovabazar Street ...	...	4	14	0
8	Do. with lower roomed house at No. 7 Godai Khanshama's Lane ...	...	0	13	0
9	Land east of Blacquiere's Tank Square...	...	0	10	26
10	Filled up drain on the east and south of No. 11 Marquis Street ...	...	0	11	16

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

1. The Commissioners' limit will be kept in a closed cover, and the highest bidder above this limit is to be the purchaser; if any dispute arise as to the last or highest bidding for the lot, the same shall be put up again and resold.

2. A deposit of 25 per cent on the amount of the purchase-money is to be made by the purchaser immediately upon the lot being knocked down, and, in default thereof, the premises to be immediately put up and resold at the risk of the first purchaser.

3. The title to the property will be a conveyance from the Commissioners.

4. The residue of the purchase-money shall be paid within 15 days of the date of sale; and in case of default in payment of such residue, the purchaser shall forfeit his deposit, which shall be received and taken as and by way of liquidated damages. The sale to such purchaser shall be wholly at an end, and the Commissioners shall be at liberty to resell the same without any reference to such first purchaser but at his risk.

5. The Commissioners will, if required, furnish a deed of conveyance, such conveyance being prepared by the solicitors of the Corporation at the expense of the purchaser, who will likewise have to bear the cost of the stamp duty and registration, and of any attested copies of deeds or covenants to produce those that may be required.

6. The Commissioners will enter into no other covenant than that they have done no act to encumber.

7. The plan of the several lots may be inspected at the Municipal Office from the undersigned.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

6th July 1888.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a representation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoon" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.] These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo. Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return; but still he

did not get away. "I think," he says, "in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, 'We serve flesh and blood.' The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kisto Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—*The Indian Magazine*, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1888.

No. 337

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

DREAMS.

NAY! Let them dream their dream of perfect love;
It is the sweetest feeling, the most fair,
This flower-like joy that blooms in the soft air
Of Youth's bright heart, with Hope's blue heaven above.

Breathe naught of disenchantment; do not bring
Misgiving to the bliss of blended souls,
The while Life's brimming river golden rolls
Through primrose-lighted uplands of the Spring.

The blossoms of Eternity lie furled
In the dim kindling buds of dreams that keep
A fluttering pulse within Time's broken sleep;
Dreams are not idle; dreams have saved the world.

And therefore
Our lowland eyes that yearn and dream we lift,
And to the isle-like mists that round them drift,
And to the moon and to the morning-star.

KEEPSAKES.

EACH lover has a keepsake
For the memory of his love;
One has a note or a ribbon,
And one a curl or a glove.

But I am rich in keepsakes;
Three notes I treasure apart;
There are two, accepting my presents,
And one, declining my heart.

SONNETS.

TO APRIL.

[From a Sick-bed]

I.

O APRIL! month of sweet expectancies,
The girlhood of the year, the pride of Spring,
Why com'st thou thus on Eurus' withering wing,
And 'neath such unrelenting skies as these?
Black March has passed from all the lands and seas
He ravaged; and I hoped that thou wouldst bring
Such gifts benign as thou wert wont to fling,—
Bright gleams, and opening buds, and thoughts at ease.
Why art thou masquing thus in Winter's mien?
Where is thy chaplet, and thy leafy spray?
Thy flexile graces, and elastic tread?
Ah, April! nothing reck'st thou what I say;
Ceaselessly cheerless wilt thou still be seen,
For all these moanings from a sick man's bed.

II.

Too harshly, April, chide I thee, believing
Thou wouldst remain unkindly to the last;
But now, ere thy eighth of moons is past,
Thou smilest, and repentest thine aggrieving.
Thou art again the month of promise, weaving,
With that strange, textile potency thou hast,
Fresh foliage, and bright presages,—the waste
On plants and man of wintry hours retrieving.
And if for me come no reviving bloom,
Not less on high the lark shall hymn it clear;
Not less the flowers shall perfect their perfume;
Not less in order move month, season, year;
Albeit, the Earth has one more noteless tomb.

J. S. D.

THE WANDERER'S RETUR.

"How cold upon my passion blows the wind,
Over the old sweet fields—so sweet, that I
Could wander more, yet for all memory
Not sweet enough. Beloved, ah! have I sinned,
That all but these dumb fields looks so unkind,
And I, without e'en one familiar face,
Must see the darkness in the sunny place,
And set my feet here, wandering still in mind?"

Then glancing up, if heaven might look sweet
Upon his sorrow, one bright star he spied.
But, as he gazed, his hungry eyes grew dim,
And the star seemed so many worlds from him.
Heart-stick, he turned; and in the pool beside
Lo! the same star was shining at his feet.

HOPE.

(Suggested by Mr. Wall's picture in the Grosvenor Gallery, 1888)

In lonely vigil till the day be born,
Whose one star glimmers pale the clouds among,
She hears the voices of the human throng,
The hopeless murmurs of a world out-worn,
The tumult of immitigable scorn,
The old ancestral cry of mortal wrong,
Sound like the weary burden of a song,
Love loveless left and faithless faith forsworn.
She hears, unheeding. Her self-blinded eyes
Keep still undimmed the glory of the view
Which once was hers, when all the world was new:
Her ears, that catch one strain which never dies,
Hold firm, through chance and change of earth and skies,
Her dumb unswerving faith in Good and True.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY left Calcutta on Wednesday the 15th for his second tour.

THE Secretary of State is not disposed to accept the recommendation of the Public Service Commission to raise the limit of age in the Civil Service Examination. He is willing, however, to grant a third Native Judge for our High Court. A despatch to that effect has been received in India.

BABOO Preonath Sen has successfully passed the last examination of the Cooper's Hill College. He stands twelfth in the list. The College was started to checkmate the Native Indian engineers. It is satisfactory therefore to see a Bengali come out with the mint mark of that College.

HEALTH to maturity! Good news to Old Fogeydom! The fifty-five years' rule has been worked to death, and the Great Mogul of London has nodded assent to its abolition—in part. As if to make up for the unceremonious treatment of the Public Service Commission, whose best recommendation, namely, that for raising the age of candidates for the Civil Service Examination, has, as Sir John Gorst lately announced in Parliament, been knocked on the head, the age limit of service has been rather unexpectedly extended to 60 years. When will special pension be the rule, instead of the exception in favour of favourites?

FOR refusing to hire out his conveyance to the Police, to carry a sick person to hospital, the Chief Magistrate has fined the driver of a hackney carriage Rs. 25. This may seem a heavy sum, but the Act empowers the Magistrate to fine to the extent of Rs. 50, in case of refusal to carry without sufficient cause. But had Jehu no cause for contumacy? We suspect he avoided Lambert's Own for fear of not getting his hire. Probably he had had bitter experience of carrying out their orders.

...ers in the country have been spared the duty of

MUNSHI KANAHYA LAL, Pleader, Judicial Commissioner's Court, Lucknow, was stabbed in the face by a Kahar named Nannhu, in the city Magistrate's Court. The pleader was removed to the Bulrampore Hospital where he died within 5 hours, in great agony. The assassin is in custody awaiting trial. He bore Kanahya Lal an old grudge. He had formerly been a menial in the pleader's employ.

MR. RYLAND, late of the Stamps and Stationery, may now have some peace. He cursed the Bengal Secretariat for not granting him extension of service. He will, however, be allowed to draw special pension.

IN his recent visit to the Czar, among other sights, the Emperor William was treated to a review of between 40,000 and 50,000 troops of the Guard, under command of the Grand Duke Vladimir, brother of the Czar. Here is a description by the *Times'* correspondent:—

"The two Emperors, on splendid chargers, each wearing a Russian general's uniform, rode side by side up and down the three lines of cheering troops, followed by Prince Henry, in the uniform of the Russian dragoon regiment, of which he has just been appointed chief. The Russian Empress came next, with her daughter and the Grand Duchesses Elizabeth and Mary Pavlovna, with outriders and footmen, but this time drawn by four jet black horses. A brilliant suite of officers brought up the rear. After the inspection, the Imperial party took up a position at the saluting point and the march past began. The first to wheel round from the line on the left flank and pass the flagstaff was the Emperor's body-guard of Circassian dressed Cossacks of the Kuban, with long scarlet coats and carbines. The blue gendarmes of the Guard rode behind this showy squadron, and then came an interesting sight. The Czar trotted off and placed himself at the head of his troops, followed by his Minister for War and adjutant-generals, in single rank. In this order the Czar passed the German Emperor and brought his sword to the salute; then, wheeling round, he resumed his position at his side. William II. leant over and warmly grasped the Czar's hand at this compliment. The infantry then marched past, in columns of companies, in quick time. First came the crack Reobrajensky Regiment, formed by Peter the Great, led by its commander, the Grand Duke Sergius, with the Heir-Apparent marching in its ranks on the right flank. The German Emperor could not help turning round to Count Herbert Bismarck, and nodding his admiration at

the sight of these splendid troops. Next came the Ismailofsky Guards (a body dating from the time of the great Empress) keeping correct line. The young Grand Duke Constantine marched with the first company. The Jäger Regiment came on at the double, led by one of the sons of the Grand Duke Michael. All the troops were in field-dress without helmet or cuirass. Both infantry and cavalry were made to go through the difficult task of starting at the double and at full gallop from the halt, a few paces before reaching the flagstaff. The mounting of the cavalry in general was the theme of general admiration. The horses in each squadron were all of one colour to a shade, and some literally marked time to the music in cantering past as if trained in a circus. Among the prettiest sights of the review were the passing of the Red Hussars of the Guard, as they galloped past to the attack wildly sabring the air and the furious rush of the Guard Cossacks, with couched lances, led by their handsome commander, General Jlovaisky. The Cossack Horse Artillery closed the march with an exciting break-neck gallop with their four-horsed guns. The Emperor William returned the Czar's compliment by putting himself at the head of his Viborg regiment, and saluting his imperial host at the flagstaff. On returning to his post, it was the Czar who this time gave him a hearty shake of the hand."

THE Chief Magistrate summoned Sreemutty Dintarini Debi, a *purdanashen* lady of Gobardanga, to appear before him and give evidence in a cheating case. Unwilling to appear in public Court, she made an application to be examined by commission. Mr. Marsden could not agree, for that would, he said, delay administration of justice and be unnecessarily costly. The lady however would be examined, as all other *purdanashins*, in a palki in open Court. She next applied to the High Court (Mr. Justice O'Kinealy and Mr. Justice Rampini). A rule was issued. It was in these words:—

"A rule upon the Magistrate to show cause, which he will do by a letter to us, why it should not be ordered that the lady should not be required to appear in the Court. We intimate to the Magistrate that we think he should not enforce her attendance under the subpoena provided she does what she says she is willing to do, that is, come to Calcutta and give her evidence in such suitable place, either within the Court building or not, under such circumstances, to be arranged by the Magistrate, as to secure that she may be examined in the presence of the accused, and at the same time not be exposed to the inconvenience of coming into a public Court-room. We would ask the Magistrate to let us know what arrangement he proposes to make in this matter, and as we have no doubt will be the case, under the circumstances, the

O'Kinealy delivered the following judgment of the Court:—

"This is an application made by Srimati Deentari Dabi, asking that she might be examined by commission, and not examined in open Court, under Section 503 of the Code. In her application she set forth that she was a *purdanashen* and a Brahmin, connected with a family of acknowledged respectability, and herself possessed of considerable property, and she begged that what had been done in some previous cases might be done in hers. On that application, a rule was issued, to show cause, and cause has now been shown by the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta, and by the Crown. The Crown objected, because the lady in her petition had said that it was a degradation for her to appear in a public Court, and the learned Advocate-General argued that it would be intolerable to allow such a principle to receive the sanction of this Court. No doubt the phrase is objectionable, and it will be impossible, as the learned Advocate-General says, to admit the fact that merely appearing in Court is a degradation; yet we do not think that that supports the case. There is no doubt that such applications have been granted, and granted very often, but the question of the habits and customs of the people should be taken into consideration in dealing with matters of procedure. The learned Presidency Magistrate has shown cause by saying that it is the invariable custom for *purdanashen* ladies to be examined in *palkie* in Court. That is not the question. The question was whether a commission was ever issued in regard to *purdanashen* women in this Court. Of that there is no mention here. He also says that this lady travels from Goburdangah to Calcutta, but he does not say that she does so publicly. So far, therefore, as cause has been shown by the learned Magistrate, it does not seem that the fact stated by him affects the reasons upon which such commission has ever been granted. Now, looking at the nature of the application, that the lady has actually taken a house in Calcutta adjacent to the Magistrate's Court, that no possible inconvenience can arise to any person, and that she has volunteered to pay the expenses of the commission, we can see no possible reason why this rule should not be enforced, and it will be made absolute."

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REFRESHMENT cars with mail trains are being run between Sukkur and Kotri on the North-Western Railway.

MULAH ISMAIL, customs farmer to King Theebaw, has been awarded Rs. 2,42,332, in settlement of his claim of Rs. 4,14,988—for monies advanced for steamers and goods supplied to the Burmese Government.

MESSRS. MITCHELL REID & CO. have charged, before the Northern Division Magistrate, their banian Gopal Chunder Mullick and his brother the cashier under him Gocool Chunder Mullick, with embezzlement of Rs. 20,000. Warrants were ordered but the Baboos immediately surrendered themselves and were let out on bail of Rs. 20,000 each. The case will be taken up on the 21st.

HERE is a feat of journalism in the Southern Continent :—

"It is reported that within two hours of the time of the first innings of the Oxford and Cambridge cricket match closing, the local *Daily Telegraph*, recording the event, was selling in the streets of Melbourne. This is a feat of telegraphy that probably beats all former records. The cricketers closed their innings at Oxford amid cheers for the wonderful skill of Ferris and Turner, and while the players were still on the ground the news was wired across the world, was put in type, printed, and distributed within a hundred and twenty minutes."

WE extract from the *Indian Agriculturist* the following significant figures showing the growth of the Tea Industry of India :—

"In 1851 there was but one Company in Assam with a very limited area under cultivation, and a yearly production of about a quarter of a million pounds. In 1887 we find no less than 873 gardens covering an area of nearly a million acres, although but one-fifth of that area is actually planted. In place moreover of an outturn of 250,000 lbs. of tea, we are told now of an outturn of 70,000,000 lbs. The cost of production, which was originally very high, owing to the outlay for skilled labour that had necessarily to be imported from China, greatly of course arrested the progress of the gardens. The pioneers of the enterprise had to buy their knowledge, and success was dear. To-day, the whole cost of cultivation does not exceed Rs. 54 per acre, while the leaf can be laid down in the Calcutta sale-rooms at 6½ annas per pound, to realize prices varying from 7¼ annas to 9 annas, for shipment thereafter and sale in London at an average price of 11d. the pound, though on occasions quotations are at as low a figure as 10d. The aggregate outturn from all the gardens of India is now from 50,000,000 to 100,000,000 lbs. a year, of which Assam, as we have said, counts for 70,000,000 lbs."

Native Opinion devotes a leading article to the subject of Dishorning of Cattle.

"As various kinds of novelties are being introduced in every branch of industry we may expect that some persons who approve of almost any kind of foreign novelty will soon attempt to introduce in India the practice of English farmers and cattle dealers, of cutting off the horns of animals. We hope that as soon as this custom is begun, our Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will take up the question and obtain the opinions of competent men, whether it ought to be allowed, or whether the protection of the Law ought to be invoked to suppress the introduction of this custom hitherto unknown in India. In England many persons desire to abolish this practice because it is cruel and useless whilst others adduce arguments in favour of it."

The practice of dehorning cattle is by no means new in India. It prevails in Provinces under Jain as well as Hindu influence.

ERRATA.—In the article headed "Honors in General and the Fellows in Particular" in the issue of the 11th August, p. 379, col. 2, line 40, for ember read amber; for the poetical lines 3 and 4 from bottom read A Fellow! 'Tis a venerable name!

How few deserve it, and what numbers claim!

P. 380, col. 2, l. 11, for be sent read he not sent (.)

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

AS might be expected, the House of Lords has accepted the Special Commission Bill to enquire into Parnellism. This measure has had the effect of a flank movement against the leading Home Rulers. They must counteract it. Foiled in Parliament by the massive ministerial majority, they are bent on creating a diversion in another field. They have now, of their own instance, sought the protection of that law to which they had been repeatedly referred for clearing their character. Mr. Parnell has at last instituted a suit for libel against the *Times*, claiming fifty thousand pounds damages. He has chosen the Scotch Courts for his own vindication. The case comes on in October. Mr. Thomas O'Connor, M. P., and Mr. John Redmond, M. P., are also said

to be preparing for similar action against the same newspaper in the Queen's Bench. This distribution between them of the two systems of judicature, is doubtless an astute arrangement devised by the fertile brain of the Great Agitator.

Parliament was adjourned on Monday. It reassembles on the 6th November.

COUNT VON MOLTKE has retired from the Chiefship of the Staff. Count de Waldersee fills his place.

THE children of Shem and Ham have given another notable chastisement to the progeny of Japhet, for their unrighteous trespass into their tents. News from Massowah, dated Rome, August 14, reports the destruction of 350 auxiliary troops with all the Italian officers. The disaster is ascribed to Native treachery.

TIPATCHED huts in the southern suburbs have been proscribed—by beat of drum. The proclaiming policeman in Russapugla was not without a reason of his own for the order. He ascribes it to the absorption of the suburbs in the town proper. He is probably right, though premature in the announcement. Even if the new municipal bill be now assented to, it does not come into operation till next year.

THE Government of India has definitely disallowed the application for two lacs of Rupees for the new central road out of the Hooghly bridge toll Fund. This has been a damper to the local Government and to Mr. Cotton. Sir Henry Harrison too has lost heart.

GENERAL Martin, among his colossal charities, endowed a Fund for the benefit of released convicts. The released prisoners of the Presidency Jail have hitherto been the recipients of this bounty. Only good conduct prisoners, recommended by the Jail Superintendent, were given such sums as were considered necessary for their immediate wants, not exceeding Rs. 500. But such has been the administration of the Fund, that it has been swelled by another lac out of the income of the original investment. The present yield is therefore about Rs. 10,000 a year. The charity is at present administered by the Deputy Commissioner of Police with the assistance of the Jail visitors. Recently, on application, the High Court has sanctioned the extension of the charity to prisoners in general in all the Bengal jails.

The Massy Baba John Fund for the benefit of civil prisoners—a much less wealthy endowment—makes its own provision for the unexpended balance. It is annually paid over to the District Charitable Society.

THE papers are full of the praises of Mr. Lambert for his "attempt to improve the Police administration of the metropolis" by "placing each section of the Police under the immediate supervision of a competent, honest, and educated officer." But is it true? The reform, if any, stops with the transfer, from the Superintendent downwards, of every man in the Park-street Thana, after the boy-torture case.

THE Guzerat College at Ahmedabad, teaching up to the B. A. standard, stood first in the recent examinations. It is a native institution thoroughly under native tuition. We do not think it is independent of Government aid, like our local private institutions—the Metropolitan Institution, the City College, the Ripon College—which entirely depend upon indigenous resources. Whatever the success of these places of education, we cannot regard with pleasure the total exclusion of Europeans from the instructing staff. We hope the proprietors and managers will soon awake to the unwisdom of depriving their students of all benefits of European teaching of European learning.

TWO policemen at Sukkur—Juman and Umar—were sentenced by the city Magistrate to one month's rigorous imprisonment each, for perjury in the court of the second class Magistrate, who had sanctioned the prosecution. The Judge of the Sadar Court, who was applied to for revision of the order, declined to interfere. The District Superintendent of Police was not satisfied with the decision, believing his men innocent. The Courts failing—there being no other appeal—he practically appealed to himself, so far as he had any jurisdiction. The rigour of short time imprisonment of favorite hands in the Police, useful

at torturing or swearing away the liberty of Her Majesty's unfortunate lieges, is usually a nominal affair. In the present case, at any rate, the term was soon over, a part of it being consumed in appeal. Then came the opportunity of the king of the District Constabulary. He gave his jail-birds a cordial welcome back. He warmly embraced them—in spirit if not in the flesh—and coolly reinstated them in their old places. He could not have, in a more marked way, shown his contempt for the Courts. Who will, after that, doubt that the Executive is supreme.

If every case of perjury by policemen were brought to trial, our jails would soon be filled with these worthies.

MESSRS. JARDINE SKINNER & Co., of this city, prosecuted two native contractors for embezzling certain sums of money paid them for procuring cocoons. The Magistrate of Malda sentenced them each, on the 30th June last, to one month's hard labor. The District Judge, in a review of the case, thought the punishment inadequate and referred it to the High Court. The matter came up before the Hon. Justices Wilson and Rampini on the 8th August. Their Lordships agreed with the District Judge, and were about to issue a rule when it transpired that the term of sentence had already expired. The Judges were in a fix, they took time to consider, and, next day, they issued a rule to shew cause why there should not be an order for six months' imprisonment, with the further order that the released prisoners should be rearrested and admitted to bail pending their fresh trial for further punishment.

Is a Zemindary partible in Madras? That is the question of the hour in the legal and landed circles down South. The Court of Wards in charge of the estate of Marangi, contends for the negative. The District Judge of Krishna made a decree for division of the Zemindary property. The High Court, in appeal, confirmed the order. The Court of Wards has applied to the High Court for stay of execution and for leave to appeal to the Privy Council.

In Bengal both the law and the Courts favor partition, and the law prescribes an elaborate process for minute divisions. *Cui bono?* It are better, perhaps, for the tenants, the landlords and the country generally, if the law were otherwise. The partition of a Zemindary in Bengal is still a costly, and, what is worse, a most tedious, affair. In the blessed metropolis, it is a regular chancery business of the Eldonian régime.

By order of the local Government, Register of attendance for the Judges of the Madras High Court was introduced—when the Chief Justice Sir Arthur Collins was on leave. If the innovation was deliberately so timed, it was a poor "dodge" unworthy of a great administration. On his return, the Chief has ordered the discontinuance of the practice, observing that the Judges were not schoolboys and they had a better sense of their duties. In proof of his own sense of responsibility, Sir Arthur has ordered two appellate Benches to clear off arrears. We hope these nasty accumulations will not be cleared off—with a vengeance, to spite the Government.

A PARAGRAPH appeared in the middle of June in the *Indian Agriculturist*, which has attracted so much notice among agriculturists, that our contemporary has, within less than two months, quoted itself *in extenso*. We, therefore, make no apology for placing the whole before our readers:—

"Cultivators in India may properly take a lesson from what has been done in New Zealand, which though not a tropical country, had for some time refused to produce crops of corn on a profitable scale. The straw was short and weak, and the grain both poor and scanty. The suggestion was made to a farmer in the colony to grow and plough into the land a strong crop of mustard while in the green state, and just before flowering. The advice was acted upon, and the result was such as the most sanguine expectation could hardly have anticipated. The first crop of wheat taken off the land after this green crop of mustard had been ploughed in, was marvellously fine in weight and bulk, and the example has been followed. The effect of this mustard manure on New Zealand wheat lands induced an Indian tea planter to adopt a similar mode of manuring in his own tea garden, with the happiest results. The seed was sown in rows between the lines of tea, which had been for some time yielding very poor crops—not more than about three maunds per acre—and that of poor and indifferent quality. The plants came up with the first rains, and when fully grown and on the point of flowering, were dug into the ground between the tea plants, covered up and allowed to decompose. The effect of this treatment has been in every respect equal to that on the fields of corn already alluded to. The tea crops in this manured garden at once rose to five

maunds the acre, and in the second year of the experiment, the same land produced six maunds per acre. Other garden proprietors have followed the example with more or less advantage, and a larger yield will now be a general result."

Although the *Indian Agriculturist* addresses those who are in the tea, and it is in their interest that the editorial note in question has been reproduced in its last issue, yet the information is available to other cultivators equally, and we earnestly desire our countrymen engaged in any analogous culture to try this new New Zealand method. Indeed, it was not in tea that it was tried in New Zealand but in wheat, and with most brilliant results. We trust our wheat cultivators will follow in the path of their fellow-farmer of the Southern Hemisphere. There are doubtless various other kinds of cultivation in which the suggestion may be utilised.

HERE is what they in France think of the new Emperor of Germany—William II.

"The new German Sovereign, who was born on the 27th January 1859, at Berlin, is now in the 29th year of his age.

He is a man of ordinary spissitude, with a full face, having rather a sinister look.

We know that, owing to the unskilfulness of the midwife of his mother, he had at his birth an arm injured, which remains much shorter than the other one and somewhat paralysed.

The new emperor is afflicted with deafness in one of his ears, and often suffers from a disease not yet diagnosed, which has its seat in the affected ear.

With the affection he suffers under, he may attain a long life, but it is always menaced with crises, which could carry him off very rapidly. Crises epileptic—cerebral—even insanity—such are the possible consequences unless the relapse is prevented.

Kings generally consider themselves as leaders of the people. William appears to wish only to be the leader of the army. The first act of Frederick III., on succeeding William I., was to address a proclamation to his people. William II., on taking possession of power, sent to the army his first words and his first salute. What he said was that his father was that it placed him at the head of the army, the soldiers that he occupied. He thought of the people. And what is his last said to the army: 'We belong to each other, I and the army. We are born for each other, and we shall remain united by an indissoluble tie whether we have, by the will of God, peace or storm. You come now to take the oath of fidelity and obedience to me, and I promise you I shall ever keep in mind that the regards of our ancestors contemplate me from the other world, and that one day I shall have to render them an account of the glory and honour of the army.'

His order of the day to the navy is not less significant. 'I can, said he, guarantee that in the grave moments we shall certainly be united and that, in the prosperous day as in the time of misfortune, we shall always be disposed to shed our blood in order to safeguard the honour of the German flag and the glory of the fatherland. God will bless our efforts.'

What do you think of this sort of appeal to arms? Do you not find that these discourses ring like the blast of a clarion? How unlike is this note to what was given by Frederick III., who, in his first edict addressed to M. de Bismarck, declared himself 'indifferent to the details of grand actions which belong to glory.' With William II., it is a Corporal King who succeeds a philosophic Sovereign, it is Maximian who replaces Marcus Aurelius."

It is interesting to note the signs of popular interest in local Self-Government in the far off interior. An unmistakable symptom of the people's zeal in their municipal affairs, is afforded by a late election dispute in the Presidency of Bombay. As the *finale* of the dispute has a lesson for the whole empire, we give the facts from the Satara newsletter dated August 1, of the *Native Opinion*. The Mamlatdar of Wai, in the Satara District, in his capacity of Polling Officer at an election for the local board, having rejected certain voters' applications as barred by time, appeal was made to the Collector. The Collector disposed of the matter in true Collectorial fashion. He could not quite agree to the Mamlatdar's interpretation of the rules under the Local Boards Act, nevertheless he would not interfere with the Mamlatdar's order. So the Election proceeded, to the intense dissatisfaction of the people. The Wailies are not to be so easily suppressed. They are an advanced

people—much more so than those of the District Chief Town, Satara, the old capital, with its still strong leaven of old-world conservatism. They have an active Sarvajanic Sabha—an organised Association for the common weal—and good leaders. They advised and agitated, and caused an application to be made to the District Court for setting aside the election. Mr. Crowe, the Judge, admitted the application and took up the inquiry. The affair had created a great sensation and the case was watched with intense interest. At length, the Judge gave his decision. He not only ruled the Polling Officer wrong in his view of the Rules and in his rejection of the voters' applications, but also declared the election void and ordered a fresh election. Our contemporary's Correspondent, who is evidently a man of ability, regards this decision as a triumph of the popular cause. Unless there is room for the intervention of some weak High Court Bench, he may well do so. He is safe in referring to the influence of the Local Boards Act on the political education of the people. He concludes with the remark that when European officers themselves are now showing a good disposition towards the scheme, it is a pity that our native officers should betray any jealousy. The attitude of Mr. Crowe, the covenanted Judge, certainly presents a contrast to that of the poor Mamlatdar. But there are Europeans and Europeans, and the Covenanted Magistrate of Satara does not come out of the business with flying colours. He represents the bias of the Service—certainly its illogic. We have seen frequent instances of this failing on this side the country. Some years back, in a case of our own under the Land Acquisition Act, we questioned the legality of our Mamlatdar's (Deputy Collector's) proceedings, but the Collector, though admitting our contention, concluded with confirming them. He evidently thought that he as Collector or perhaps as one of the great Covenanted, could by his simple fiat convert a declared illegality—admitted to be so by himself—into a legality. Lately, a case of administration of the Municipal Act occurred in a Suburban town similar in essential features to this Wai case. The Bengal business was, indeed, far more offensive. But it is a longish story and had better be reserved for another occasion.

HERE is one of the new millionaires—the Diamond Colossus!

"Mr. Cecil Rhodes matriculated some fifteen years ago at Oxford University, but his funds running out, he went to South Africa. There he took to 'diamond-digging,' and doing well, he returned to England and to Oxford and took his degree. He then returned to the diamond fields and formed a syndicate to work the diamond fields. The result is that he is now the richest man in South Africa. He has much influence with the Dutch, and he uses it to the mutual advantage of them and his own countrymen."

Mr. Rhodes is an Irishman, we believe. He is certainly one of the largest patrons of Parnellism. He lately wrote to Mr. Parnell offering a colossal contribution to the "Rint," provided the exclusion of Irish members from the British Parliament forms no part of the next programme of Home Rule. He has got the assurance and sent in his cheque. Lucky are they who have Colossuses of Rhodes to look up to!

RAJA GOVIND RAO BABA SAHIB, brother-in-law of the Maharaja of Indore, was sentenced at Secunderabad, by Mr. Tucker, the Second Assistant to the Resident, to 3 months' simple imprisonment and Rs. 500 fine, for ill-treating his Ranee. The order for imprisonment has, however, been remitted in appeal—a clear failure of justice, for which Mr. Forbes, the First Assistant, will, we hope, be called to account by Mr. Howell. A fine is no punishment in such a case. What is a few hundred Rupees to a man in the Raja's position? To make this melancholy matter most distressing to all well constituted minds, the Ranee is in custody to be tried for attempting suicide to escape from the cruelty of the husband. We hope further indignity will be spared her.

THE new municipal bill has passed the scrutiny of the Departments of the Government of India. The only flaw they find is that the Small Cause Court referred to in the Bill needs to be especially empowered. An Act will have to be passed on that behalf before Sir Henry Harrison's law is imposed on the town.

THE first part of the trial of Rao Bahadoor Kunjen Menon, late Sub-Judge, Tellicherry, for corruption and bribery, has ended in the Assessors' verdict of not proven. The Judge has reserved judgment pending the conclusion of the second case.

AS many people are in suspense as to the upshot of the proposed scheme of a tramway between Howrah and Amta, we are in a position to say that, to an anxious enquiry addressed by a gentleman living in the District to Messrs. Walsh Lovett and Company, they have replied that the scheme is not abandoned, and that work will be commenced in a short time.

Our last information regarding the other scheme of tramway from Howrah to Shiakhala *via* Janai, is that it has been sanctioned by all the local authorities concerned, and that it awaits the sanction of Government.

WE learn that the late Babu Sagore Dutt of this city has, by will, left landed properties having an annual income of Rs. 47,000 and Government Securities amounting to Rs. 105,000, yielding an annual interest of Rs. 4,506, for the perpetual endowment of a charitable dispensary and hospital and of a free school at Kamarhati. After providing from the above income all outgoings on account of the management of the landed estates, repairs of houses and establishment and other costs, it is estimated that an income of Rs. 30,000 per annum or Rs. 2,500 a month will be available for the charitable purposes of the testator. The Administrator-General of Bengal is the executor.

THE Stock Notes are to be withdrawn. Since Major Baring floated them as a part of his financial scheme, they were somehow never looked upon with favour. About 16 lacs of these Notes are now in circulation, and they will be converted, on application, into promissory notes of the 4 per cent. loan of 1842-43. Interest will be paid to the 31st July, less premium of 8 annas per cent.

SURPRISE upon surprise! Unless we are being shamefully betrayed by the telegraphists, the Government of Bombay are displaying a strange infirmity of purpose. Mr. Crawford, after all, is not to be let off so easily, as the sudden abandonment of the case, in Mr. Vidal's court, without explanation, naturally led people to imagine. The news that he was going home was premature. He will be tried by a commission of his peers—who may be said to be the peers also of the realm—but not taken from Bombay. The tribunal will be composed of Covenanted Bengal and Madras Civil Servants.

The ex-Commissioner of the Bombay Central Division, however, claims his trial at the criminal Courts. There was an application on his behalf before the District Magistrate to restore the case that had been disposed off behind the accused's back, on the withdrawal of Government sanction for prosecution. Mr. Vidal, in rejecting the application, said that there was no case to make any order upon, and that Government having withdrawn the sanction, there could be no case. The District Judge was next applied to. Mr. Inverarity for Mr. Crawford argued that the withdrawal was illegal and pointed out that the Magistrate had postponed the hearing to the 16th and the Code did not empower him to take it up on the 9th—without the knowledge and consent of the parties, that is. Mr. Inverarity is also reported to have said—"the Government, finding that the Magistrate would release the accused, revoked their sanction in the middle of the proceedings, which was illegal and improper." Mr. Candy, the Judge, considered that the Magistrate was right after all, although he should have heard the accused before making the order. What good? Why go through a useless formality which could not possibly affect the result?

We do not think it is seriously contended that Government has not the power to revoke its sanction. The real question seems to be whether proceedings commenced can be stayed on such revocation. In the present instance, trial had not begun. There is no doubt, however, that the sudden change of front of Government goes to Mr. Crawford's prejudice.

THE trial of Hanmantrao is proceeding.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1888.

THE GOVERNMENT ABANDONMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

THE question of technical education is shelved. In the Resolution which we were discussing recently, the Government of India have definitely announced that the time is not come for doing anything on a

large scale for the promotion of technical education of a practical kind. This virtually amounts to a surrender at discretion to the difficulties of the subject. At any rate, it must now be clear to our readers that our own view of those difficulties was by no means exaggerated or unnecessarily gloomy. They have impressed the Government of India in the same way as they impressed us. We have at all events prepared the public for the new policy which, on a full consideration of all the bearings of the subject, the Government have now authoritatively declared. That policy in its plain meaning puts off action and tells the advocates of technical education that their demand is somewhat premature in the present circumstances of the country. Indeed, the Government are so far convinced of this that they do not hesitate to say that evil rather than good would result from the provision of facilities for technical education, before an adequate demand has been created for skilled labor and for educated foremen and managers as in Europe. The subject of technical education of a special kind presents itself now in a different light from what has hitherto been the usual one, in which it has all along been viewed. The Resolution announces a new policy, or, at least, a new course of action. In support of our interpretation, we will let the Resolution speak for itself:—

"The second class of considerations which have forced this question into prominence is concerned with the need of industrial occupation for a population rapidly outgrowing the means of support supplied by a too conservative system of agriculture. It is also concerned with the need for scientific methods to develop the material resources of India and to improve its agriculture, its products and manufactures; so that they may better hold their place in the markets of the world, where competition is carried on with an intensity of purpose, which has been compared to the conditions of warfare. But technical education in this latter sense—that is in the sense of industrial education—is a matter not so easily dealt with as the technical education of the general elementary character referred to in the preceding paragraph; and it therefore seems desirable that if the present impulse in its favour is to be successfully directed, the conditions of the question should be clearly understood.

Technical education proper is the preparation of a man to take part in producing efficiently some special article of commercial demand. It is the cultivation of the intelligence, ingenuity, taste, observation, and manipulative skill of those employed in industrial production, so that they may produce more efficiently. And thus technical education of the special, as contradistinguished from the preparatory, kind is an auxiliary of manufacture and industrial capital. In India at the present time the application of capital to industry has not been developed to the extent which in European countries has rendered the establishment of technical schools on a large scale an essential requisite of success. But the extension of railways, the introduction of mills and factories, the exploration of mineral and other products, the expansion of external trade, and the enlarged intercourse with foreign markets, ought in time to lead to the same results in India as in other countries, and create a demand for skilled labour and for educated foremen, supervisors, and managers. It may be conceded that the effect of these various influences on an Asiatic people is very gradual, and that it would be premature to establish technical schools on such a scale as in European countries, and thereby aggravate the present difficulties, by adding to the educated unemployed a new class of professional men for whom there is no commercial demand. Still a large field is open for the action of Government and public liberality in the direction of promoting special technical education suitable to the immediate requirements of the country and capable of expansion with its growing necessities."

The Government henceforward will give little heed to the cry so lustily made for a complete system of special industrial education in this country. The utmost they will be prepared to do in the matter are, 1st, to teach drawing and the rudiments of science in the schools that exist for general education, and, 2ndly, to promote industrial education so far and no farther than may be actually needed for the purposes of existing industries. As regards the teaching of drawing and the rudiments of science in the existing literary schools, we must confess it is but a poor outcome of the Education Commission's suggestion for bifurcation of studies in those schools, one course being literary, and another industrial and commercial. Nor, as to the other conclusion of the Government,

are we much sanguine of good results. The promotion of technical education, through the means of the Railway workshops and factories under jealous European management, to supply a possible demand for those who receive such education that might arise in municipal towns and large stations, is not likely to prove a success. Indeed, the practical treatment of the question is not at all so easy as is so often imagined.

After stating the above view which the Government have come to hold on the subject, they cannot well abandon the field without setting forth in clear outline their ideal as to the future possibilities of technical education in India. That ideal is, of course, based upon what is the actual state of things among Western nations. Though possessing no practical interest for the present, it is still of sufficient importance in its allusion to the discussion. The Resolution forecasts the future in the following passage:—

"The subject is of such extreme importance, and the insignificance of what has been attempted in India is so conspicuous, that the Governor-General in Council is deeply impressed with the necessity for action in whatever way may be practical and sound. Some Local Governments have indeed recently taken practical measures to promote technical education, and these measures have been viewed with much satisfaction by the Government of India. But as it is desirable that the steps best calculated to promote technical education should form the subject of continuous enquiry and discussion, the Governor-General in Council suggests that Local Governments and Administrations should on a convenient but early opportunity take action in two ways. Impressed with the existing want of information at hand as to the extent, character, and circumstances of important local industries in every province of India, His Excellency in Council would, in the first place suggest that in each province an Industrial survey should be completed. In the second place, he would recommend that, with a view to turning the knowledge acquired by such a survey to the best account in the light of the abundant information contained in the Report of the Royal Commission on Technical Education, each Government and Administration should form a committee of educational experts and professional men, who should make suggestions from time to time for the auxiliary supply of appropriate means of technical education; for such modifications of the State system of public instruction as may aid and encourage industries and industrial employment up to the full measure of such requirement at each provincial centre as may be found to exist; and when the circumstances are opportune, for the establishment of a Technological Institute, for the enlargement of the provincial schools of Art and Design, and for the larger co-operation of the University in the promotion of the object in view."

We consider the decision unfortunate. There are, indeed, great difficulties in the way. Those who ask the Government to make adequate provision for technical education, and accuse them of indifference in the matter, have no just conception of the conditions of the task. They are more led by sentiment than practical considerations. Having said all this, we cannot conceal from ourselves the fact, that to wait for a demand for skilled labor before providing means for its local supply, would amount to an indefinite postponement of any action. "To foster the larger developments of technical education in complete harmony with the sound principle that supply should follow demand," the Government shall have to wait a great deal. Before a demand of the kind could arise, native capital must be induced to launch itself in industrial enterprises, and there must be a larger demand for products of skilled labor. This is virtually shelving the problem. However sound might be the principle in theory, not much progress would take place in anything if its application were to be strictly insisted upon. For, it is not more true that demand creates supply than that supply often stimulates a demand. At any rate, this principle was nowhere when the Education Despatch of 1854 was promulgated. There was scarcely a demand then for educated men to justify the large expenditure of money which was undertaken for their supply. In fact, the wonderful expansion of general education which has taken place, in consequence of that great charter of education, has been due simply to the ig-

noring of the principle which now finds such warm acceptance. It may be feared that the Government have not dealt quite fairly with the question. In specifying the difficulties which hedge it round, the prime difficulty of Ways and Means has been scrupulously kept out of view. That is the great stumbling block, and the Government seem to have laid themselves open to cavil by their present ingenious device for escaping from an uncomfortable and, indeed, untenable position. The appeal to political economy is mere claptrap which will not deceive many.

THE DIGNITY OF TRIFLES:

THE NEED OF RESPECTING THEM IN FOREIGN RULE.

We have much pleasure in reproducing a very interesting little letter to the editor of the *Indian Agriculturist* :—

"SIR,—A somewhat remarkable case in connection with 'Trade Marks' has recently come before the Ceylon public, in which the abandonment of a particular trade brand was caused not by any legal process but at the instance of a Buddhist official. A Ceylon planter wishing to employ an entirely novel trade mark for his tea designed a figure of Buddha with uplifted hand, this was drawn and cut on a hard wood block for the purpose of printing the trade mark. A Buddhist official hearing of the matter wrote to the planter pointing out that such a use of the figure of the founder of their cult would be repugnant to the feelings of all true Buddhists: to the credit of the planter he at once caused the block to be destroyed.

Trifling as this incident may appear, I submit it as in my opinion an illustration of one of the causes of the success of British rule in the East: tolerance and regard for Oriental religion and prejudice in contrast with the failure of the more drastic methods adopted so successfully by other early settlers in India, the Portuguese, Dutch, and French.

C."

"C." is evidently a thoughtful earnest man, well worthy of a hearing from politicians, public servants and statesmen. Whatever may be thought of his historical generalization, the practical lesson of toleration and respect for the institutions and feelings of the people he urges, is undoubtedly sound, as the fact, which gives him occasion for his short but pregnant discourse, is sufficiently curious. Europeans may regard that fact of little importance and utterly inadequate to support the weight of the maxim built on it. But sober men of experience and students of history will not, on that ground, dismiss it with contemptuous flippancy. Dequincey notwithstanding, the Poet is still right who sang—

What mighty contests rise from trivial things!

Men in all ages and in all climes are governed by impulses, and the less advanced a man is, the more is he liable to subjection to such impulses, and what is true of the individual unit, is true of associated units or societies and communities. Herein is a fruitful source of the obscurity of Oriental history. Hence small facts deserve more attention and respect in these regions. Hence trifles carry more potential importance in the East than in the West. This great capital owes its origin to the dishonourable maltreatment received by the East India Company's factor—one of the many things which the Anglo-Indian editor of Dacca does not yet know—as an accident in the family of a Delhi Prince first gave that Company an advantageous commercial footing in Bengal. Similarly, the way to empire for the British was subsequently paved by an insult to a Jain family. Who, after that, will not exclaim,

What mighty contests rise from trivial things!

The same principle has been in operation during the British Period itself. At the beginning of this century, the mutiny of Vellore threw the Government into consternation. And what was the cause of a

demonstration which, carrying as it did the sympathy of the whole native army and population, threatened the existence of British Power? It was a simple military order on the Sepoys in garrison in the Southern fort in question to crop their hair after a certain fashion. The order was promptly recalled. Since then, grave discontent, sometimes leading to overt disobedience and mutiny, has been caused, in Bengal and elsewhere, by similar indiscreet attempts at discipline. The grandest historic trifle was, of course, the Civil War of 1857, which had nearly destroyed the mighty fabric of British sovereignty in the East, and this was caused by the issue of a new fire-arm—the Enfield rifle. The objection was not to the new gun but to the new kind of cartridge served for it. These were instantly abandoned, but the mischief was past recall. The quiet circulation of a piece or two of unleavened bread from village to village, before the outbreak, was another little incident unnoticed at the time, but which has since occupied the mind of public men, as the harbinger of the Mutinies. These are a few out of numberless examples that might be easily picked up. They certainly establish the intimate relation between trumpery circumstances and serious events. The fact of such circumstances being followed by such events, obviously suggests the idea of necessary causation. But these instances not only prove the potency of trifles, but even more suggest that trifles are not trifles at all. What is chaff to one may be food to another. Difference of status and taste, leads to difference of regard for the same objects. National difference often discovers itself in *minutiae*. Men of diverse races, creeds, customs and institutions, must differ in their ways and notions in many particulars. Hence, what is a child's play to one set, may be a serious business to another. Hence we find Europeans passing over many things in this country which easily strike the natives, who stop to ponder and act on them. Europeans may do things as a matter of course, which may provoke the Hindu or Moslem, Parsee or Sikh. It is thus that raw foreigners unwittingly offend the people. It is thus that even experienced Indian officers, like Dr. Mouat, caused indignation throughout the country by what they regarded minor matters of jail discipline, as dethreading (as it may be called) convicts of what are called the twice-born orders of Hindus, by relieving them of their badge of blood. It is thus that controversy still goes on among European writers on the subject of Nund-coomar's lock up, pending or during trial, that grave historians still regard the Maharaja's punctiliousness of purity a pretence.

THE HINDU SHRINE IN BELOOCHISTAN:

A BRAHMACHAREE'S ACCOUNT OF THE PILGRIMAGE.

THEY went, eighteen of them, in a body, from Kurrachee to the west, and in twelve days reached the famous shrine *visâ* Chandrakup. In returning, they took the direct route, reaching Kurrachee in eleven days.

It is an arduous journey at best, through the sands of Beloochistan—Kurrachee itself, though politically of Sind, is geographically Beloochee—without landmarks, the tracks being known only to experienced camel drivers. And now in the hot month of Baisakh, corresponding with April-May, it was more than ordinarily trying.

There are two Hindu abbeys—*âkrâs*—at Kurrachee, called respectively the Bara and Chhota—the Great and Lesser, or Senior and Junior. Pilgrims must place themselves under the protection of the Superior of the one or the other of these

institutions. One of the hangers-on or disciples of either establishment must lead each band of pilgrims. Under the name of *dgud* or pilot, this person acts as the Guide, philosopher and friend. Pilgrims go in all seasons. Each band forms a sort of corporation, or *punchayet* as it is called, with common interest and liability, the Guide acting as chairman and executive officer. Chandranand Brahmacharee and his seventeen fellow pilgrims went in charge of a Guide from the Junior Abbey.

Commencing their journey and making their way through the alluvion of the trans-Indus valley, they were soon confronted by their first water-course. In the neighbourhood of Kurrachee, a dozen miles or so to the west, flows the Hab. It was no obstacle, however. A small stream—although Chandranand calls it a creek of the sea—it was easily passed, without wetting waist cloth.

There were several small rivers, mere rivulets, mostly dry, to pass. But the chief of any importance were two, near to the shrine, called Aghori and Hingul—the Hingul of our maps. In Baisakh, of course, they were fordable, the water in the middle reaching, for the most part, up to the hips and waist, and, at the greatest depths, no higher than the breast.

The Hab is the Rubicon of the pilgrimage. It is a test river. Here, at the outset, is held the preliminary trial of eligibility for the candidates for Heaven by way of the shrine in the desert. If the Devi is propitious, well and good; otherwise, in crossing, the legs swell. That is a sign of no permission; the man is too sinful for the journey and must return. When our pilgrims after crossing saw no symptom of increasing bulk in their lower extremities, they were overjoyed and pursued their onward course through the landward skirts of the beach. The sea was not seen, but it was never distant more than a mile and a half or two miles or so, concealed from view by low ridges of sand. The nineteen were accompanied by two camels laden with provisions for a month, though the journey to and fro occupies only some 20 or 21 days. This is a provision against any contingency of delay on the road by the sudden swelling of the mountain streams, several of which fall in the way. These are usually forded with ease but might be impassable, there being no ferry, indeed no population in the track. Crossing the Hab, they reach the only township or market-town on the way, called Sonmeance. This is a good port for a native state with a tolerable trade, and many galleys—seafaring boats of the *huri* kind—in harbour. Passing five or six miles, they reach their next river Purali. After that, all is blank. It is a sandy region with a low sparse shrubbery for camel pasture. The whole indeed is an extensive camel pasturage, with no villages, but here and there a hut or two of starved Lumris, Mussulman camel drivers. Camels knocked up at Kurrachee are sent to graze and recover here, whence good conditioned animals are taken to work in the city. The camels graze in charge of the families of the drivers—a woman or an old man and a boy would be found in a hut on the way at long distances. They lead a precarious life. Nothing grows there for human food and nothing can be purchased. At long intervals, the members of their families returning from Kurrachee give them some provisions. For the rest, they depend upon the charity of pilgrims. These Lumris dig a pit in the sand for water, a clear stream issues which they cover up with leaves and go about their business. The pilgrims take water from there, bathe and cook, nobody to obstruct. At close of day, however, the diggers return and sit near the well and when a pilgrim goes to take water, they prevent him. He pays a pice or two, perhaps, which they reject, saying they cannot eat coin nor buy food there. They want bread. This is well known, so the pilgrims provide themselves with bread, one of which they throw to the well-keeper. So they have to provide bread for these Bedouins of the Indian desert for the guide, too.

From a distance they beheld a house on a bare hill top. As they approached, the house disappeared, and there seemed a high mound or round wall, or a hill with a round rim on top. Climbing up the sides of the precipice, they discovered a large well, high in the air, with water to the very brim. There is no convenient footing on the top at the sides of the well. There was danger of one losing his balance if he attempted to stand with both feet on the narrow margin. So they placed one foot on the rim and fixed the other foot below behind in the slope of the rough declivity.

This is Chandrakup, filled with muddy water, as if the element had been colored with a great quantity of ashes.

The earth from Chandrakup is taken and kept by pilgrims for laying at Pashupatinath, in Nepal. Before going to Chandrakup, four miles below, they stop for the day, bathing and cooking and eating, and preparing a huge unleavened bread—*Chapdti*—to which each of the pilgrims contributes his two pounds of *dtid*, for the Mahadeva of Chandrakup. They dig a pit and put the lump of flattened dough on fire, made of twigs and branches collected there, and then cover it up with charcoal and fuel. All night it bakes. In the next morning, two of them purify themselves by a bath and carry the bread on a stick. The rest accompany them (sharing their burdens of water) to the foot of the hill, where they lay down their things and bathe in a well below, having a tall tree beside it, and get up the sides of the Well—the sacred Chandrakup. The Guide, addressing the unseen Deity, says, that he (So & So) has come from the Junior Akra with a band of pilgrims to worship the Divine Mother and awaits permission. To which the Well replies with a loud report. Next he asks permission to offer him favourite stimulants and narcotics. Another report, and then they threw into the Well their offerings of ganja, churrus, siddhi (*bhang*). Finally, he asks permission to offer him bread. After the usual report, the great bread is thrown.

Next the guide named one by one all the pilgrims, and waited for the sign for each. "So-and-so is an applicant for worshipping at the shrine of the Devi." After some time the water which is continually bubbling as in a boiling cauldron, bubbles a loud Bom or rather Bam! in reply. There is more or less delay in this sign. If there is delay, it is understood to be evidence of reluctance to allow such a sinner to worship at the holy shrine. The pilgrim brotherhood pray to the God to pardon the sinner and give ear to their prayer. They even offer to share his sins. Then when the bubble bursts, it is received with acclamation of thankfulness. In one case the sign would not be manifested, notwithstanding all their exertions. This was a woman—the only one in that band. However, at last, even she received the sign of assent.

The pilgrims were curious to learn the cause of the difficulty about this poor woman. They asked the Guide if he knew anything. At last it was understood that she was in the female way.

There is also another well of the same sounding kind at some distance out of the route, called Gerá Bába or *Gerá Babaji ka kup* which is continually bubbling and bursting in sound, which pilgrims sometimes visit. At one time it was in good repute, but now it is neglected. At Chandrakup if you throw some thing, the water whirls round and carries the thing down and then rises again into a bubble which bursts with a clap. But Gerá Bába is always bursting his bubbles and making a noise. The Guide told them Gerá Bába was a madcap without discrimination. They need not take the trouble to go to him.

Armed with the permission of Chandrakup, the pilgrims take the route direct to the shrine. After trudging for days in their cheerless path, unrelieved by anything in the shape of interesting scenery, without even the ghost of an accident, they are at length informed that they are nearing their journey's end. There is nothing to make them feel themselves in the divine atmosphere—no cloud-capped towers, nor golden spires, nor sacred peaks to remind them of the neighbourhood of the Holy of Holies. At last they come upon a small stream. It is their penultimate piece of water to cross.

This is the Aghore. There another initiatory ceremony is performed. It is an interesting rite, of the Masonic kind without Masonic mystery—the ceremony of fraternation. As they approach the river, the Guide tells them to cut teeth brushes from the low thistle and brushwood. About two miles from the Aghore, is the last stream, Hingul. In the former, each sticks a *ddtan* in the river and exchanges another with his brother, before using it. A mile and a half brings them to a rock called Kalimayi, where a Lumri woman butchers for them the goat they had brought and the Guide pours a cup of its blood on the stone (there is no image) also a cup of grog. Another mile or so, and they see the temple, like a square sentry box, flat-roofed, from a distance. They approach. There is a well below the temple called *kennel kund*. The temple is called *kapti*.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Will you or any of your numerous readers let me know, through the medium of your famous journal, the places and dates of birth and death of Bidyapati? I find in a journal that he was born in Sitahati in 1315 B. S., and died in Cutwa in 1403 B. S. Is this true?

JOGESH CH. MUKERJI.

Camp Kaligunj, the 13th August, 1888.

Public Paper.

MAHOMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

DISCIPLINE AND MORAL TRAINING IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

Dated Calcutta, the 31st July 1888.

From—NAWAB ABDOL LUTEEF, BAHADOOR, C.I.E., Secretary to the Muhammadan Literary Society of Calcutta.

To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department.

I AM directed by the Committee of the Muhammadan Literary Society of Calcutta to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter No. 46, General Department, Education, dated the 16th January last, forwarding printed copies of the Government of India's letter, Home Department, No. 10---384, dated the 31st December 1887, and of its enclosure, on the subject of discipline and moral training in schools and colleges, and asking for an expression of the views of the Society on the points discussed.

2. The question of the advancement of Muhammadan education in all its departments being one which has always commanded the earnest attention of the Society, the Committee have given their best and most serious attention to your aforesaid communication, and directed me to forward the following expressions of their views upon the subject.

3. The Committee attach the highest importance to religious instruction as a means for the inculcation of proper lessons in morals and discipline amongst the rising generation, and they view with alarm the general deficiency of students in public schools in matters of discipline and reverence to authority. The evil is one affecting the Muhammadan and Hindu communities alike, and requires the prompt application of effectual remedies before it assumes a graver aspect and greater magnitude.

4. With reference to the recommendation of the majority of the Education Commission that the existing rules as to religious teaching in Government schools be applied to all primary schools wholly maintained by Municipal or Local Fund Boards, the Committee beg to observe that a very wide distinction exists between the Government and local bodies. The Government as a whole represents the whole Empire, peopled by the followers of different creeds, and is as such pledged to strict religious neutrality. But local bodies may often represent populations homogeneous in point of religion, offering little or no chance of a conflict of religious interests. The Committee fail to find any just reason why a local population harmoniously represented by a legal corporation should have greater obstructions thrown in the way of imparting religious instruction to the local youth than a voluntary association of a much smaller number of the people of the same locality acting together as an aided School Committee. The Committee venture to think that the rules as to religious instruction require modification in both directions. They are firmly of opinion that to allow any religious instruction for the purposes of proselytization is a breach of that religious neutrality to which alike on the principle of justice and of expediency the British Government in India is pledged in permanency. Schools receiving Government aid in any form, as well as schools maintained wholly or in part from the funds of public bodies created by statute and discharging functions delegated to them by Government, ought therefore to be equally prohibited from imparting religious instruction for the purposes of proselytization. At the same time proper facilities ought to be afforded in both descriptions of schools for the inculcation of students in the principles of their own religion with the desire and consent of their proper guardians. This involves no breach of religious neutrality or violence to religious feelings. So far as the Muhammadan community are concerned, they would hail with delight such an extension of religious teaching.

5. The special difficulty of Muhammadan students in competing for success in modern instruction has been to make time for their special religious curriculum. Ordinarily that curriculum delays the commencement of their instruction in the English language and handicaps them throughout their University course. The Committee think that it might conduce to economy of time and labour if in purely Muhammadan schools elementary instruction in the vernacular languages were to be given through the medium of books of religious tendency. Where the school is not exclusively Muhammadan, the Muhammadan community might be allowed to supply otherwise properly qualified teachers to lecture separately to the Muhammadan students in the hours set apart for vernacular instruction.

6. The Muhammadan community of these provinces generally speaking have not yet attained that power of organization and of funds to render it easy for them to establish special schools of their own with or without aid from Government, which might combine the modern curriculum with their special religious instruction. It is especially necessary therefore for them that they should be allowed to supplement the teaching of existing public schools by adding thereto a course of religious instruction.

7. Subject to the above observations, the remarks and suggestions contained in paragraphs 7 to 11 of the Government of India's letter command the general concurrence of the Committee.

8. The Committee do not approve of the attempt to prepare a moral text-book, based on the fundamental principles of natural religion, as they think such an attempt to be impracticable in India, and as they apprehend risk of injury to the cause of true religion from the onesided and partial inculcation of certain principles supposed to appertain to "natural religion."

9. The Committee cordially approve of the sentiments contained in the circular from the English Council of Education, quoted in paragraph 13 of the Government of India's letter. They fully appreciate the great importance of teachers in public schools maintaining a high standard of honesty, truth and honour in the institutions under their charge, and inculcating upon their young students not only the general duty of consideration and respect of others, but also the special duty of obedience to, and reverence for, their parents. The Committee, however, beg to add in this connection that example is always more effective than precept, and that consequently it is the duty of the Education Department to see closely to the moral conduct of the teachers under their control. Instances are not unknown of public teachers of notorious immoral habits being tolerated in public institutions on account of their intellectual attainments or the kindness entertained for them by their official superiors. The mischief which such a teacher creates by his personal bad example more than neutralises the benefits of the moral precepts inculcated by all the other preceptors of the institution. The Committee are earnestly of opinion that it ought distinctly to be understood that proved flagrant moral misconduct will positively entail the removal of a teacher, however brilliant his attainments in other respects, or however much he might command the compassion and kindness of his superiors for other reasons.

10. With reference to the question of punishments, the Committee beg to state that corporal chastisement, often of a severe character, was quite common in the indigenous schools of the country. The tendency, however, in modern instruction has been more humanitarian, and the current of public opinion has gradually set against severity in such matters. It is only a manifestation of the same spirit which has led to the abolition of flogging in the army. The sentiment against the use of the rod in public schools is complicated by the fact that whipping has been introduced as a punishment for criminals. The Committee are, therefore, of opinion that only the milder forms of corporal punishment can be resorted to in the case of native students. On the question of fines, the Committee think that, although primarily the punishment falls on the offending parents, still it has a value in this that it draws the attention of the parents to the misconduct of their child. To make the process effective, however, there ought to be a prescribed form which should be filled up by the school authorities and communicated to the guardians concerned.

11. The Committee endorse the desirability of the head-master of every school keeping up a personal knowledge of all the boys enrolled therein. They beg to add in this connection that every head-master should be thoroughly acquainted with the vernacular language of the boys under his charge. Otherwise, in investigating cases of breach of discipline, he has often to rely on his subordinate staff, which is an unsatisfactory and ineffectual method of administration. The head-master of a school ought to be in a position freely to speak to, and to be understood by, every student in his school.

12. The Committee, looking to the backward state of education amongst the Muhammadans and the relatively advanced age at which Muhammadan boys begin their education in secular public schools, cannot support the suggestion for expulsion of boys above a certain age. In their opinion, the experiment ought at first to be tried of removing from school every student who fails to secure promotion from his class for a number of years. This they think will weed out most of the unruly big boys whom it is desired to exclude by the maximum age rule.

13. In conclusion, the Committee beg to suggest that in the meetings of debating clubs and societies, connected with Government schools, convened in the school premises under the superintendence of the teachers themselves, social, religious and political subjects should be excluded from discussion. The immature understanding of young boys is likely to be injured and unsettled by the free discussion of such subjects, and thereby the seeds laid in their minds of that laxity of discipline and want of reverence to constituted authority of every description, which the Committee to their grief find to be the characteristic of many school-boys of the period.

THE following has been going round the press :—

"Across the Atlantic in a Cockle-Shell.—Mr. William A. Andrews was to start from Boston on June 18, for England in the smallest boat that has ever yet crossed the Atlantic. The experience will not be a new one to Mr. Andrews. In 1878 he, in company with his brother, Asa W. Andrews, achieved world-wide fame by sailing in forty-five days from City Point, Boston, to the Lizard in the tiny *Nautilus*, a dory of only 15 ft. keel. The trip across the Atlantic has been made by four small American boats, the *Centennial*, the *Nautilus*, the *New Bedford*, and the *Little Western*, all of which were of such dimensions that the trip in each case was a most dangerous one. The craft in which Mr. Andrews will go over is smaller than any of them. The *Little Western* was largest, being 23 ft. in length and having a ship

rig; then came the *Centennial*, 20 ft. overall, 16 ft. keel, and 2½ ft. deep; the *New Bedford* 19 ft. 5 in. overall, 13 ft. keel, and 4 ft. 4 in. deep; and then the *Nautilus*, 19 ft. overall and 15 ft. keel. Mr. Andrews's boat is of the following dimensions:—Length of boat, 14 ft. 9 in.; width, 5 ft.; depth, 2 ft.; length of sprit, 17 ft.; of mast above deck, 8 ft. of boom, 6 ft. 9 in.; sail, 16 ft. 3 in. on the fore; foot and leach, 15 ft. Half-inch cedar is the material of which she is built, and she will carry a lateen rig. A peculiar feature of the boat will be her keel. During his trip in the *Nautilus* Mr. Andrews was considerably inconvenienced by the scarcity of space caused by the water jars, and the new keel is intended to do away with this. It will consist of a heavy piece of timber, which will be hollowed out, leaving a space in which nearly forty gallons of water can be easily carried. By means of a pumping apparatus this can be drawn out at any time."

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by public auction in his sale room in the Court
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next, at the hour of 12 O'clock at noon, pursu-
ant to a decree and order of the said Court
made in suit No. 492 of 1886 [wherein Soobul
Chunder Law is the plaintiff and Sreemutty
Sooranginee Dossee also known as Ranginee
Dossee is the defendant] and dated respec-
tively the 20th day of January 1887 and 17th
day of May 1888, the following property,
namely :—

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ing thereto containing by estimation nineteen
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K. C. S. I., and butted and bounded in manner
following, that is to say, on the North by
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land and premises belonging to Mohesh
Chandra Nayaratna, on the South by the
land and premises of one Harram Chowdhry
and others and, on the West by Chowdhry's
Bye-lane.

Lot 2.—All that copyright of the Ben-
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Nobin Chand Bural, plaintiff's Attorney, at
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R. BELCHAMBERS,
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N. C. Bural,
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High Court, Original Side,
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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
 (the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
 Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some
 years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder
 Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*
 (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high
 repute among the kindly, as well as acute and
 intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real
 misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord
 Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The
 picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and
 many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as
 an Englishman may find them if he looks
 fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad
 story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder ;
 and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen
 could give individual instances of Bengalee
 faithfulness almost unique in history, taking
 all the circumstances of our relation to India
 into account. The Bengalee is generally eager
 for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both
 courageous in the expression of his opinions,
 and gifted to a remarkable degree with the
 power to express those opinions with force and
 precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an
 unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during
 an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in
 force as well as eloquence, any unprepared
 speech he ever had heard made by any mem-
 ber of the House of Commons, if four or five
 members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body
 of men—small for that large province—who
 are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young
 Bengal." Some of them are no longer young,
 but grave and aged ; some have, in the course
 of years, been highly distinguished for their
 public services and their scientific and other
 attainments. Some have at times been mis-
 represented, and their language misinterpreted,
 so that on its return to them it has amazed
 none more than themselves. Nothing of this
 has been done by the really great administra-
 tors of India. That it has been done, however,
 cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the
 author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu
 Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute,
 as I have said, also an administrator, as the
 reader will see from the title-page to this book.
 A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might
 seek for and not find. His use of the English
 language has astonished many an educated
 Englishman ; and the quality of his reading is
 shown by his marvellous power of quotation ;
 not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and
 Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in
 science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads,
 and little-known old pamphlets, in the applica-
 tion of which he leaves one wondering—first,
 how he obtained the productions at all, and
 secondly, how, having obtained them, he
 learned to apply them so appositely to the
 subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we
 shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the
 work of the administrator. He comes upon a
 milkman's village, on which he finds fastened
 the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens
 the grip, and re-settles the village, in the
 double interest of Prince and Peasant. And
 all the time he sees everything. The poor
 people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his
 genial and kindly, if also at times, what a
 Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice.
 A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his at-
 tention by the gracefulness with which she
 carries a vessel of water from the river ; and,
 though the fair maid and he are divided by
 race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his
 full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admit-
 ted—and he will not be offended with me for
 saying so—that he never meets with a fair face,
 without at least giving evidence of the fact
 that he has eyes to see and a heart to com-
 prehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much
 might be said, and still leave much more to
 say. He meets a missionary on the river, and
 evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to
 pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, how-
 ever, in the bud, and contents himself with
 saying, "So new is preaching here, that the
 simple people said the padre had been singing
 in the street." He meets Catholic and Pro-
 testant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles
 over their disputes, while he astonishes them
 by his command of the English language, and
 even by his knowledge of the Bible—a know-
 ledge, I may add, which is evident in many of
 his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in
 its cage, to his great distress, which is not
 however paraded. He says : [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but
 of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose
 name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to
 bark, with a noble independence, at some very
 dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind ; and here is his farewell :
 [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one
 that will draw the author very close to the
 great heart of humanity, wherever the words
 are read. Could anything be finer than the
 testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen,"
 ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor
 Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah
 dog. The passage is worthy of the author,
 and of the great mercifulness of the land that
 bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared
 further to find bold and manly language. The
 author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he
 gives John his due, and admits that India owes
 him a great debt. Here is one passage relating
 to foreign fruits : [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pic-
 tures—the reader will find some exceedingly
 pretty, and all the more valuable in that they
 are taken from a standpoint purely Indian ;
 not English. Where an English artist's mind
 would be filled with European ideas, the mind
 of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class
 of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive
 and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our
 author was placed in a dilemma of a kind
 not unknown to travellers in India, but not on
 that account the less stupid. He wished to
 go by a particular boat, and took time by the
 forelock for that purpose. The fare was at
 first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he
 offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note
 for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from
 the Currency Office, and had been received
 only the day before from another Government
 department." The rest of the story is
 thus told : [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth
 something. I can fancy the author laughing
 even in his dismay ; for he can laugh well at
 others, and equally well at himself. I shall
 only venture on one more passage ; and I give
 it as showing the spirit of the man who dares
 to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*.
 He desired to return to his home in Bengal,
 and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Inde-
 pendent Tipperah, where he had been located
 "some two years." He received the Maha-
 rajah's permission to return home ; but still he
 could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this pas-
 sage ; the lesson of the immense value of
 courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers
 and ruled. There is a great deal in that sen-
 tence, "*We serve flesh and blood*." The best
 administrator in India is not always the ablest,
 the man whose plans are the wisest as plans ;
 but the man who, with plans or without them,
 gives confidence to the people, and confidence
 not merely in his justice, but also in his con-
 siderateness and forbearance. A clever man
 once said that the art of success in India is the
 art of giving good dinners. It may be so ; but
 the peril is great—the peril of debt ; and in
 any case the art has its limits, and its natural
 collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall
 in the end. But there is one art that never
 fails—the art of true courtesy ; of that courtesy
 which, being natural, is not affected by any
 whim or caprice, either of the person who
 possesses it, or of any one with whom he has
 relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once
 more recall, as I easily and very vividly can,
 the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as
 known to me many years ago. I see him, as
 I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra
 Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-
 abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* ;
 and I feel and say, with all earnestness and
 sincerity, that among these are men whom
 the Government of India would be wise in
 recognising and winning entirely to its side.
 They are men on whom no really generous
 word—true as well as generous—ever is
 thrown away. I have compared them at times
 with men of kindred occupations at home,
 and I think that they are as a rule by far
 the truer gentlemen in good manners, and
 often in very much more than mere manners.
 May the great God, whose sacred Name they
 use as that of the Father of all, guide them to
 a nobler destiny than any they yet have
 known, and with them, and by them, bless
 their native land !

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1888.

} No. 338

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE.

JUNE 21ST, 1887.

As men look back in after-days
Where once they trod in slippery ways,
And find fresh theme for love and praise ;

And here, they tell, the snow was deep,
And there we venturous dared to creep
Along crevasses dark and deep ;

And there we cut the wall of ice,
Or, desperate gamblers throwing dice
For life, we clomb the precipice :

And all the way we went along,
With spirits clear and bosoms strong,
We often wandered, oft went wrong.

One step alone, the next, we knew ;
Yet still an onward instinct drew
Our progress, till with evening dew,

As birds at twilight roosting come,
We reached our fair Italian home,
The slumbering lake, the peaceful dome.

So we, who after fifty years
Look back remembering hopes and fears,
Melt into gratitude of tears,

For all that is ! the might-have-been
Forgot, in this her triumph-scene
When England gathers around her Queen !

For peace at home, and heard afar,
Heard only, threat of distant war,
No bloodstain here our fields to mar !

For India held with stubborn mood
When, 'gainst the furious Sepoy-flood,
Dauntless our little leaguers stood !

Or where, on bleak Crimean height,
Nigh lost, the soldier saved the fight,
And, when chiefs blundered, brought all right !

Or where, 'mid fiend-like dervish-yell,
Betrayed, deserted, Gordon fell,
And England shuddered, as at a knell,—

Too late to save, but not to mourn ;
Yet of one hero left forlorn
Proud to believe a hundred born !

For something lost, yet more of gain ;
For healing arts that soften pain,
That ease the nerve, and soothe the brain !

For Nature conquered, powers of strife
Made fruitful, powers with blessing rife ;
For arts of beauty sweetening life !

For knowledge spread, and useful lore
Brought to the humblest cottage-door,
For kindlier touch 'twixt rich and poor !

For wider justice clasping all,
And, broken down the parting-wall,
One law alike to great and small !

For freedom, elsewhere snatched not given,
Here working like a wholesome leaven,
Raising the heart, and opening heaven !

For these, for all ; the good acquired,
The goal that once our fathers fired
Now starting-point for good desired !

Whate'er our lot, where'er our way,
On this at last her crowning-day,
Father, to Thee we kneel and pray :—

For her, long life with glorious close,
And, dying, honoured place with those
Who lived to lighten human woes ;

Who set an aureole round the crown,
And loftier rise by stooping down
Than in low heavens of war-renown !

For us, that like our sires of old,
Statesman, and soldier, seaman bold,
We may her Empire strongly hold ;

Whether, now reached its farthest scope,
Our downward path begin to slope,
Or upward climb with boundless hope,

With equal heart for every fate,
Not cowering crushed by fortune's weight,
Not with prosperity elate,

But storm, or sunshine, taking all,
Indifferent save at duty's call
To meet the hour, whate'er befall.

For He whose scales the nations weigh,
The Lord of night, the Lord of day,
Breathes, and as flowers we fade away :

And yet again, with pity stirred,
Sweet as at dawn the waking bird,
" Rejoice ! arise ! " His voice is heard.

So seems it still our wisest trust,
To bravely bear what bear we must,
And reverent answer, God is just.

A. G. B.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ALAS for the Health Society and the cause of Furious Sanitation! The Coryphæus has failed in his quest. The *Englishman* announces that Mr. Justice Cunningham has resigned his seat in the Calcutta High Court, and that he does not return to India. There is one formidable obstacle the less for somebody!

IF it is a pity that that brute of a Raja Govind Rao Baba Saheb has been let off with only a fine for ill-treating his poor wife, we are relieved to notice that the Rani has been spared the ignominy of a trial. The Assistant Superintendent of Police declined to lead evidence against her and she was discharged. An act of true chivalry!

SIR GUNPUT RAO, President of the Gwalior Council of Regency, is dead. He had been ailing for sometime with fever. He entered the Gwalior service in 1851. He distinguished himself by his loyalty to the Supreme Government by opening out the Scindia hoards. He was execrated in Gwalior as without. He never minded, so long as he commanded the good will of the Europeans. Somehow, Europeans become inordinately fond of the unfaithful servants who open out the vaults of buried treasure of their dead masters. It is the same in Hyderabad or Burdwan as in Gwalior or Rampore.

THE Military authorities have been relieved of the supervision of horse breeding arrangements. That duty will be done by the Agricultural Department. That may mean a transfer from the frying pan to the fire, unless the work is made over to experts—not mere Vets, but genuine scientific breeders of experience.

THE Collector of Moorshedabad is reported to have left on his tour of inspection, as the change on the river during the rains is called. While the head of the District is sailing up towards Jungypore, the knights of industry have it all to themselves on *terra firma*. They are impartial in their attentions, without fear or favour, even to their kith and kin or fellow-chevaliers. Among the many cases of theft and burglary taking place in the city, one of those specially mentioned is the robbery of silver articles valued at Rs. 50 from the house of "Baboo B. D. Rai, Deputy Magistrate, Berhampore." By B. D. Rai is doubtless meant Baboo Bansidhur Rai, the last of the managers of the Nizamat, who, after its demise, performed the *post-mortem* as the Deputy Collector at the Sudder station.

A MEMORIAL has been submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor for extension of jurisdiction of the Sealdah Small Cause Court, from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000, with power to try rent suits in respect of homestead lands. The memorialists complain of the harassing, expensive and dilatory process of the ordinary civil courts.

AT Plaistow, on the 30th July, three men were struck with lightning. Two of them recovered and one was killed. The *post mortem* disclosed that a steel wire ran round the edge of his hat. The medical opinion attributed the death to this cause for that attracted the elective fluid.

SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS is a common complaint of the school children in Austria. The Minister of Public Instruction, as a preventive measure, has prohibited by a decree the use of books printed in small type. A most wise measure, which all Governments would do well to adopt.

THE Hon. Philip Perceval Hutchins of the Madras Council replaces Sir Charles Aitchison in the Government of India.

A WOMAN in Saint Julien de Varaville, in the Department of the Manche, in France, was delivered of 5 children at a birth—four boys and one girl. They survived several days. In four deliveries, this French prodigy produced 11 births, thus, one girl, two girls, three boys, and four boys and one girl, her latest feat. Just the Eve for a new Colony! France must be in a bad way indeed when, with such prolific daughters, she shows a steady decline in population.

MR. KIRKWOOD has not only resigned the Service but has, it is said, paid down Rs. 500 for the benefit of girl Budhia whom he has wronged.

ACCORDING to an American Magazine,

"the Negro is changing in appearance, and losing some of the birth-marks peculiar to the African race. The flat-nosed, kinky-headed negro is passing away, and becoming an unknown race. All the coloured children show the change. Among the females long hair of that peculiar woolly appearance hangs in long braids or curls down their backs. Aquiline noses and smaller mouths, with thinner lips, are the rule. For years, and, in fact, ever since their freedom, the negroes have endeavoured to do away with the short and kinky hair bestowed upon them by their ancestors. Much of their spare money is invested in various hair tonics and invigorators, and the long attention and care bestowed upon it is shown in their descendants."

Is there any miscegenation in the matter? The information is too meagre for speculation. Hitherto it was understood that the Negroes in America had through several generations retained their distinctive color. Is anatomical structure any whit easier of transformation?

THE Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway passes from the shareholders to the Secretary of State from the 31st December 1888. The purchase money has been fixed at £5,036,048 16s. 8d.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned a Deputy Secretary for the Finance Minister.

CHOLERA having abated in the Manbhum District, the prohibition dated 14th April against emigration therefrom to labour districts, has been withdrawn.

MR. MILLETT having obtained leave, Mr. Sconce acts the Chief Judge of the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, Mr. Jones is promoted to be the second and Mr. K. M. Chatterjee the third Judges. Baboo Jodu Nath Roy of the Subordinate Executive Service is once more given the opportunity of acting the fourth Judge, his place at Sealdah being filled by Baboo Abinash Chunder Mitter from Gya.

THE Home remittances from 1st April to 18th August 1888, amounted to £5,106,100.

THE Governor-General in Council has remitted the fee payable under the Court-fees Act VII of 1870 on any application for the deposit of rent, in respect of which a fee is paid under section 61 (2) of the Bengal Tenancy Act VIII of 1885.

THE *Calcutta Gazette* of the week publishes the rules for the treatment of recovered criminal lunatics confined in asylums, and for their discharge after certain periods have been passed and certain conditions fulfilled. A standing committee, consisting of the Chief Secretary, the Inspector-General of Jails, and the Superintendent of the Presidency General Hospital, have been formed "to meet from time to time and advise the Lieutenant-Governor as to the action to be taken by him in deciding on cases reported under Chapter XXXIV of the Criminal Procedure Code."

THE Kahar Nannhoo, who stabbed to death the Pleader Kanhya Lal, in the City Magistrate's Court at *Agamir ki Deohri*, has been committed to the sessions. He stated to the Magistrate that he had been in the service of the Pleader, that he was falsely convicted of theft and whipped and sent to prison, through the instrumentality of the Pleader and his sons, and that, on his release, on demanding arrears of pay, he was maltreated by the Babu. In revenge for all these, he had determined to cut off the nose of Kanhya Lal, and it was purely by accident that the knife passed through the eye. Whatever the fate reserved for Nannhoo, the incident or accident is a warning to inconsiderate masters.

LAST week, Messrs. Lall Chand Kanhya Lall, of Cotton Street, received a cheque for Rs. 15,000 from Messrs. Macneill of this city, and presented it for encashment to the New Agra Bank. The bearer Seo Lall Durwnn, instead of being present while the cheque passed through several stages of endorsement by the Bank people, seems to have gone out on some business of his own. In the meantime, another man answered to the call for the presenter of the cheque, and received 13 notes for Rs. 1,000 each and 200 for Rs. 10 each. The heavy notes were immediately converted in the Currency Office. After an absence of two hours, the real Seo Lall presented himself and demanded the Rs. 15,000, and was struck to be told that the cheque had already been paid. The matter is still a mystery.

Payment by cheque is both a convenience and a protection against dishonesty. But if the fraud under report cannot be prevented at the encashment, the system fails. The Banks are punctilious in many minor matters as regards cheques. Cannot means be adopted to prevent these frauds?

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

WE received on Monday the following telegram from Cuttack :—

"The *Utkal Dipika* simply expresses public opinion when it attributes the present distress at Kharda to the rigours of the last settlement and the still more rigorous enforcement of the Forest Rules, and questions the wisdom of giving *taccavi* advances in one hand and collecting rent in the other. The great sufferers are the Bowris, Sobors, Doms, &c., who work as labourers when agricultural operations go on, and during the rest of the year live upon the roots of fruits of jungle trees and by sale of dry wood which they pick up in the jungle and carry on their heads. The Forest Rules deprived them of one means of living, and the stoppage of agricultural operations for want of rains of the other. The sufferings of these classes are the same at Banke and Angul where the Forest Rules are in force with equal severity. It is a painful relief that the local officers have at last found out their mistake and the Rules are now being relaxed. We hope the Government will reconsider the Rules after local enquiry by an independent officer so as to give permanent relief to the victims thereof. Relief measures have been taken up with promptitude, but we have not yet heard of suspension of rent collections."

It is unfortunately too true that Government, which is ever ready to sit upon the luckless squire who happens to have a quarrel with his tenantry, which never loses an opportunity of lecturing private proprietors on their duties to the cultivators, which expects Zemindars and Talookdars to forego their contract rather than press hard upon the rayyets, is itself a bad landlord. In every Province, the peasantry on its estates are more miserable than those on private property. In Orissa, between a harsh Settlement, unsympathetic Forest Laws, and the oppression of the Irrigation department, the condition of the people must be pitiable. We hope the Lieutenant-Governor will do what is practicable to grant relief. In the way of a permanent reform, there are difficulties inherent in the subjects. Thus, valuable Forests cannot be allowed to be laid waste in deference to any sentimental feeling. Short of that, however, every legitimate indulgence should be granted, specially to tribes who have, from time immemorial, vested rights. If notwithstanding, people starve, labour should be provided, or emigration organised.

THE Criminal Sessions opened on Wednesday, Mr. Justice Trevelyan presiding.

The accomplished burglar John Pierce Healey *alias* Kenneth Ashley Merton, who committed nightly depredations in British Indian Street and its neighbourhood, pleaded guilty to the charges against him, namely, of lurking house trespass by night in order to commit an offence punishable with imprisonment, lurking house trespass by night in order to commit theft in a building, and dishonestly receiving stolen property. The astute lachrymose rogue! The Judge sentenced him to only three years' rigorous imprisonment, although he had rendered himself liable to fourteen years for each offence. There was another charge but his Lordship did not propose to proceed with it, resolved to make things as pleasant as he could, under the terms of the law, for the brilliant sinner. The soft heart of the barrister Judge was evidently moved by the plea to which, for want of any plausible defence, the fellow was reduced. Does Mr. Trevelyan seriously believe that the man will ever reform? For the matter of that, he might just as well be hanged. He has been learning to steal with the assiduity required by a learned profession and the enthusiasm due to a Fine Art, and is it possible for him to abandon his difficult acquisition? He will steal in jail, take our word for it!

MR. MARSDEN evidently cannot take a defeat with grace, or his bump of loyalty to his judicial superiors is not large. The Chief Magistrate has fixed the High Court fees for the commission from his court to examine the lady witness from Gobardanga. Why so? Why should Bow Street stick up its nose as high as Old Bailey? Mr. Marsden could

not have devised a better way to discourage examination of *Purdana-sheens* by commission. What a fine is laid on the good lady of Gobardanga! For keeping to the *Purdah*, Sreemutty Dintarini must not only bear this cost but also the expenses of her journey to and from Calcutta and a place for the commission, not to speak of the sums already expended for obtaining the order of the High Court, against the Magistrate's refusal. The convicted Raja Govind Rao has got off far more cheaply after driving his wife to suicide by torturing her. All honor, however, to the brave Brahmani! A poorer, but none the less respectable, lady must submit to the stern magisterial command.

THE High Court closes on the 10th September for the long vacation. Messrs. Justices Macpherson and Trevelyan will do the vacation work. Some of the Judges have already anticipated the adjournment, and have dispersed in different directions.

In this connection, we must say that the report, started by the new evening paper, about the retirement of Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter, is devoid of all foundation. Although he has earned his pension, Mr. Justice Mitter still keeps health and is quite able to do his duties. Why, then, should he retire? He is no bird of passage. He has no turn for speculation on the Stock Exchange or on the turf. He has not got to make love. He has neither to marry nor to divorce. He has not to make a home for himself and to revive associations and to make acquaintances, in order to be able to die among his own countrymen. He has not got to buy lands and found a family, that he should leave his profession in time for starting on another game. He was some body before he was a pleader; he belongs to a family and is himself the patriarch of a no inconsiderable progeny; and he has always his paternal acres to fall back upon. He is not that pest of society—a political Judge. He feels no call from the Muses of Poetry or Eloquence. Happily for himself and the country, he has proved too successful a Judge to need bolstering up his reputation by the production of bad pamphlets and foolish speeches. Why, then, should he be in a hurry to abandon a position which suits him so well and wherein he is more useful than he could possibly be in any other? Nor is the Court so strong that we could well spare so able and seasoned a member of it. So let him stick to his post, until Nature bids him go. He rejoins the Court at its re-opening.

THE Travancore Durbar has received an offer from Messrs. Grant of London, to raise the necessary capital for a railway from Tinnevely to Quilon. The principal condition is that the Durbar should perpetually guarantee the interest. Will not such a contract be bad for indefiniteness? Anyhow, the local Huq (whoever he be) and the big India Office swells may be trusted to make of it a good bargain—for themselves.

AT the instance of the Agent, South Indian Railway, the Government of Madras submitted to the Government of India for sanction alternative estimates, amounting respectively to Rs. 1,25,000 and Rs. 1,18,750, for 50 third-class carriages of the ordinary type and for 25 carriages on bogies with frames, 38 feet in length. The Supreme Government was not at first in favor of this additional outlay, and in reply wrote back that "the Government of India desires to avoid purchasing large quantities of vehicles which, although useful on the occurrence of festivals, might lie idle for the greater part of the year, and, as the practice of conveying pilgrims in goods vehicles is universally adopted throughout India on these special occasions, considers that the present system of carrying passengers in covered goods wagons under special precautions may continue also on the South Indian Railway."

Though not prepared to sanction the outlay for convenience of pilgrim passengers, the Government of India admits the injustice done to them. The letter concludes with the suggestion "whether a very slight reduction of fare might not be made in the case of passengers so conveyed in covered goods wagons, and if this would not meet the views of His Excellency the Governor in Council."

The local Government was so impressed with the necessity of additional accommodation that it again addressed itself to the India Government, and explained that "Although on all lines pilgrims are at times carried in covered goods wagons, it is believed that this is the case to a much larger extent than elsewhere on the South Indian Railway, owing to the great number of ordinary festivals in Southern India."

The Government of India was satisfied, and in reply communicated its sanction "to the transmission to England of an indent for either 25 ordinary third-class carriages estimated to cost Rs. 62,500, or 12 third-class carriages on frames, 38 feet in length, estimated to cost Rs. 57,000, required to meet the additional passenger-traffic on the South Indian Railway on special occasions."

Anticipating the result probably, the Madras Government did not take up the question of reduced fare for goods-wagon passengers. But it applies to other railways. Will they allow that partial relief to pilgrim passengers?

YET another University scandal—but not the last. We shall not hear of the last till the Greek Calends—at any rate, till another Hercules arises and cleanses the Angean stable and sends the brace of impertinent prigs dressed in little brief authority about their business.

One Bhupendra Nath Bose, of the Free Church Institution, went in for the last B. A. examination. He floored almost all the papers, and there was every probability of his passing. But as luck would have it, his name was nowhere on the list of successful examinees. The Principal of the College solicited information as to what subject or subjects the boy was plucked in, and was told by the Registrar in reply that the "cross lists" had not been prepared. He enquired a second time, when, *mirabile dictu*, the Registrar, putting the saddle on the wrong horse, announced that the boy was absent at the examination! We say ditto to Mr. Burke! The boy must have been absent, his protestation and the evidence of dozens of men to the contrary notwithstanding, for the Registrar of a University is a king and, as such, can do no wrong. What though Mr. So and So comes to you in the flesh and affirms that he is hale and hearty; he must be dead since Sir Oracle says he is! The Principal of the College concerned is not a Tartar of the type of the redoubtable Head Master of the Uttarpara School, who made a European Registrar eat humble pie, and the scandal in question is, of course, as good as hushed up. But do you think that the Registrar will—at least to save appearances—be called upon for an explanation? Egregious fool, that you are! The Syndics, for aught we know, are not so saucy as to do anything that may be construed as savouring of the slightest disrespect to their master—the Registrar. The University may be steeped in scandals, the Registrarship may mean "a negation of all principles," but that need not disturb the equanimity of Dr. Roy. With the Brahmo church and parsonage at his back, he is a veritable monarch—of all he surveys. We do not wonder. It is only an illustration of the saying—Give a man luck and throw him into the sea.

THE writer of the *Statesman's* Moorshedabad newsletter of August 12, is

"glad to hear that Government has kindly sanctioned the expenditure of a large sum towards constructing and repairing the residence of Sett Golab Chand, a scion of Juggut Sett, the once famous banker of Bengal. The old family houses are now tumbling down for want of repairs, which the young Sett is not in a position to undertake for himself. It is only a few years since the Government was pleased to grant him a pension of Rs. 300 per mensem."

The provision for the representative of 'Creation's Banker,' contemptibly inadequate at best when first ordered, has ever since been small by degrees and beautifully less, till it has been reduced to the present pittance of Rs. 300. Even this and any other little sums that may be disbursed for the benefit of other branches or members of the great family, are a payment to Paul by robbing Peter. Not a farthing comes from the State. The same we dare say is the case of the large sum said to have been sanctioned for the reconstruction and repairs contemplated. It must be a large sum that would be required for the purpose. In fact, the restoration of the Juggut Sett Palace is a very large and costly business. It is a vast crowd of buildings, none imposing but many of them made at great expense, of choice materials and workmanship not to be obtained in these days for love or money. Nor is the game of restoration to any large extent worth the candle. All, we suppose, that is intended is to put the house in habitable order, to remove the tumbling buildings and repair one or two characteristic pieces of architecture. It is a graceful act, worthy of an enlightened Government, and creditable to all concerned, for which the administration will be remembered with respect at the decayed former capital of Bengal. The Nawab Bahadour of Moorshedabad himself will hardly complain.

Is the *Times* aging or what? It had always its period of relaxation during the recess holidays, when the "boss" would be off for the mountains or the sea-shore, or fly to the Continent to lounge at Monaco or loaf about in the Tyrol, leaving the Sub in all his glory, singing—I am monarch of all I survey. But that period is by no means confined to Printing House Square, any more than holidays are confined to the *Times* establishment. With the desertion of London by "society," the superior hands on the whole press, who belong to "society" or affect to belong to it, make themselves scarce, if only to save caste, hiding themselves from the light of day like a guilty thing accursed, in case they cannot afford to repair to even the nearest watering place. Hence it is the period of perfunctory journalism—the period of sloth, slovenliness and slipshod of the whole metropolitan Press. But the *Saturday Review* chose to call it, in especial the *Times's*, Silly Season, and justified the phrase by copious citations of inaccuracy and ignorance and nonsense from the columns of its sole victim. Of late, the leading journal seems to have been anticipating the relaxing humours of the recess in the midst of the parliamentary session. The issue of the 18th was actually dated the 17th! Of course, this extraordinary slip is the talk of society and the subject of comment in the other papers. From *Punch* to the *Spectator*, every contemporary has had its say.

THE Chablis—we learn from France—has been attacked by the Grisetette. Well, no matter, thought we; in fact, nothing could be more appropriate. Who ever imagined she had taken to whisky pegs or the true Teutonic beverage, beer? All the romance that has, during many generations, gathered round the dainty name, would be shattered at the suggestion. Is it possible to suppose that the good grisette, whose tender pulse Sterne felt, has taken to stronger stuff? No, no. Each to his or her taste. Let the Turcoman-confronting Russ have his Raki, if necessary, or the Nature-compelling and world-filling Teuton his Old Tom or new, but, by all means, leave the Traveller Sentimental or Simple his *grisette* and her chablis. Alas! that the whole illusion should be destroyed in the detail! The *grisette* in question, we are told, is nothing but a worm. It is a grape-pest which considerably enters appearance between long intervals. It reappears this time after 22 years. On its last visit, it committed great havoc around Auxerre. No remedy has been found to protect the grapes from its ravages. Many scientific men have been deputed from Paris to report on the plague among the white wine crop, which is usually splendid.

It is often forgotten in India that all the British are neither Competition-wallahs nor school-masters in Government Colleges. Here is a glimpse of native simplicity at home, furnished by a correspondent of the London *Spectator* writing on "Preparations for the End of the World":

"In August, a few years ago, when so terrible a thunder-storm fell upon a Suffolk village that some people were sore afraid, thinking that the last day had come, an old woman was heard to cry,—'And there! Mr. B——' (the good parson), 'he ain't at home.' A pathetic touch of great trust, however small and local her measure of the crack of doom."

Nor is that a solitary case. Sydney Smith's Dame Partington was doubtless a real character, however touched up by the genius of the great humourist. And here is a companion picture, not only realistic but simply real, without manipulation by artist, furnished by another correspondent of our contemporary:—

"My friend Mr. B——occupied a house in an exposed situation upon the island of Sark. A terrible storm one night threatened the house with destruction. The old housekeeper addressed her master next morning with: 'Eh! Mr. B——, did you hear the wind? Eh! I thought the Day of Judgment was come.' 'And what did you do?' asked my friend. 'Eh! Mr. B——, I got up and made myself a little cup o'tea.'"

Like all her belongings, her taste is modest. However, most people would think the good woman's preparations for the awful catastrophe inadequate. Even the Free Masons at initiation, before risking themselves on their stage-awful passage of slippery board and what not, usually require more pronounced prophylactics in the shape of drink.

THE Tellicherry case has ended disastrously to the ex-Sub-Judge Kunjen Menon. In the first case, the Assessors found the charge not proven. In the second, the Assessors were divided. One held it not proved against the Sub-Judge but proved against the second and third accused. The other was satisfied with proof of guilt as regards all the three prisoners. The Judge was in no hurry to express his opinion or pass order. He reserved his judgment. He

had known Kunjen Menon for some time, and held a high opinion of him. He wondered that a man of his wealth could be charged with bribery, and was sorry that it devolved upon himself to try so excellent an officer. Next day, however, he was prepared to do the worst. He convicted Kunjen Menon of both the charges and sentenced him to four years' imprisonment and Rs. 20,000 fine, in default, eighteen months' further imprisonment, the punishment being evenly distributed over the two charges. The second accused in the first case, Kunhi Pakki, was ordered one year. The second accused in the second case Sankunni Nair was sentenced to one year with the additional fine of Rs. 1,000, in default another six months. The Judge had by this time exhausted his indignation, and acquitted and ordered discharge of the third prisoner Kaunen Nair.

We have no bowels of compassion for the base man who degrades to the dust the divine office of Judge, dealing out injustice in exchange for dirty lucre. Still less have we any wish to import race rivalries into public questions, if we can help it. But this case has been driven to an exceptional position. The singular want of judgment of the Judge virtually compels our sympathy to the side of the condemned. And, considering how lightly European offenders are usually let off, remembering recent instances, remembering how only yesterday Uncovenanted Deputy Collector Goodricke was allowed to go out of the country with charges of malversation hanging over him, it is scarcely to be wondered at if the difference of treatment of this native Sub-Judge suggests to even ingenuous native publicists a racial explanation. For ourselves, if once we can feel sure of the genuine guilt of the convicted, we will submit to even the extreme measure meted out to our countryman, whatever his other claims to consideration. A Judge has no business to be corrupt, and native officers should be like Cæsar's wife—above suspicion. Under the manifold difficulties and degradations of a subject race, be our simple sturdy virtue our peculiar distinction. Let Europeans be lax if they will—they can afford it, having many advantages and qualifications. We must entirely depend on our purity and perspicacity. That is our feeling. But, then, we must be sure of the justice of the doom pronounced on our men. There ought to be no room for suspicion that a native is sacrificed to afford facilities for the escape of Europeans.

We confess the Judge has greatly surprised us. Only a week before, he had privately expressed his high opinion of the worth, moral and intellectual, of the Sub-Judge. He said Mr. Menon was far too wealthy a man to stoop to receive bribes. In the course of a few days, what

A change came o'er the spirit of his dream!

Against the opinion of the Assessors who assisted him on the bench, he found him a miserable peculator. He not only convicted him but was ready almost to flay him and his alive.

The Penal Code may doubtless be quoted to support any barbarity. That precious law is a bloody business. In practice, the humanity of administrators has always moderated its relentless fury. There is no pretence of such moderation in the orders of the special Court. Surely, this is not punishment but vengeance. And the pecuniary mulct—why, it is simply *Loot*. And not even discriminate *Loot*. Not only is the convict denuded of his property, but the very portions of his children are robbed.

A fine of twenty thousand Rupees, forsooth! A fine of three thousand guineas! It is preposterous! And the forfeit of this no inconsiderable fortune in this poor country, over and above the penalty of incarceration in jail!—what could be a nicer arrangement for the benefit of subjects who will persist in saving out of their hard earned pittance, in a practically alien land, over whose law-making they have no control? And yet, such are the Daniels set over us, this order is not the first of its kind. It reminds us of a case nearer home—The *Empress* at the instance of Bhoobun Newgy *v.* Janoky Nath Roy. It is not many years since this well-known Hatkola merchant and money-lender, (brother of Baboo Sitanath Roy, Secretary of the Native Chamber of Commerce) was sentenced to imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 20,000. But Mr. Justice Pitt-Kennedy did not certainly pile this enormous money forfeit on a severe term of imprisonment. He evidently meant it as a substitute for a long imprisonment. That was truly justice tempered by mercy. A young Raja in Bengal, we believe, was dealt with in a similar fashion.

SEVERAL years ago, at the commencement of the administration of Sir Rivers Thompson, we had occasion to notice the manners of the

Covenanted officials of the Secretariat. We are glad to say our words, not all steeped in Sherbet it may be imagined, had had the desired effect. Since then, we have not heard any complaint, on that score, against any of the series of gentlemen who have held office. To-day, we have to scold our own countrymen—the lucky fellows who, as heads of departments, have brought the reputation of the office to a low ebb. Surely, they ought to have been content with their own undeserved elevation, without trying to bring in their own people at every conceivable opportunity, in season and out of season. At any rate, they might be expected to conform to the discipline of a public establishment and comport themselves with some decency. Some of them—veritable followers of the Old Man of the Mountain—have converted the premises into a smoking saloon, or rather shanty. Of course, the manners of the shanty prevail. The language too is appropriate. The sufferings of the subordinates of these mushroom growth of clerkocracy may be easily imagined. Their juniors, as good gentlemen as they, are in terror and at their wits' ends how to escape insult. The foulest Billingsgate may now-a-days be heard in the great house, addressed by a head assistant to a (say) hand assistant or lung assistant. The European Chiefs to the rescue! *Verb. sap.*

DEWAN PARUMAL KHUBCHAND, Deputy Collector of Jacobabad, Sind, sentenced by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Mr. Mules, for corruption, to three months' simple imprisonment and one thousand Rupees fine, has, in appeal, been acquitted by the Sessions Judge of Shikarpore. The news is a great relief. We hope Mr. Kunjen Menon also will be able to show his innocence to the High Court.

So our Tartar of Tangail did not cross the Continent for nothing, but more than earned his rupees. If he failed at home, so much the worse for that tribunal! The High Court had for sometime fallen on evil days, but on this occasion it rolled on the ground and revelled on the dust as it were! During its whole history, never did a Bench present such a spectacle of wrong-headedness. Mr. Ghose drove his points to the hilt, but it was a hopeless business. The Court had eyes, but saw not. It was bound by an evil spell.

THE weather in Calcutta has recently been monsoonish, with overcast sky, constant drizzle and occasional showers. On Thursday, it grew cyclonish, and for 36 hours we had continuous rain and high south-western wind. The regular cyclone was spared the city, but the streets and the maidan were flooded, and some houses and huts came down but without loss of life. Many trees were uprooted and the telegraph posts had had their share of disaster too. The fish of the ponds had travelled into the streets and afforded sport to boys, young and old. The occupiers of many huts had to forego their day meal, for the water had invaded their kitchens.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1888.

THE LATE SIR GUNPUT RAO.

IN another column, we have already not simply recorded, but briefly noticed, the death of Raja Gunput Rao. The subject will bear dwelling upon. The attitude of others in particular virtually makes a demand on us for interference, in the public interest. Apart from that consideration, however, the subject has native dignity enough to merit further comment. It can hardly be fitting, with a few conventional words, to summarily dismiss, to his final obscurity, one who filled so large a place in the eyes of the world as did the late Raja, long one of the recognised influences in Gwalior, and latterly the regent of that great State. The death of Sir Gunput Rao is undoubtedly an event in our contemporary annals. Next to the acceptance, by the Government of India, of the loyal offer of the Native Princes of military aid in the defence of the frontier and the formulation of the plan for

utilising this aid, this is the most important event of the hour in Native India. For it respects not only the weal and woe of many millions of men, but the administrative efficiency and even vitality of the leading Mahratta, we may say the greatest Hindu, State.

We can not affect to be very sorry at the news. That would neither be true to ourself nor just to the people of Gwalior. Sir Gunput Rao was by no means a brilliant man. Indeed, his capacity was of the lowest. The late Maharaja Jeeyaji Rao was neither wise nor lucky in the choice he made in him of his Chancellor. It was a deliberate choice, however, and he never regretted it. That fact may be regarded as one of the marvels of history. For, though deliberate, it was still in a huff that the Scindhia resolved on it. He chose a pronounced and known nincompoop to succeed Dinkar Rao, to spite that eminent Minister. That successful Brahman, giddy with his great elevation, secure in the protection of the British, more powerful than ever after the suppression of the formidable outbreak of 1857, and counting, as a matter of course, on the subserviency of the young Maharaja, had given himself inordinate airs, regarding himself indispensable and irresistible. He had represented himself to the British Government as the real ruler under a puppet prince. Nay more, he had claimed to be the saviour of the State as well as his Sovereign, in terms that almost implied the latter's disloyalty to the Paramount Power. It was a terrible blunder—the greatest in his life—the effects of which he is still enduring and must endure through all time and eternity, until the Divine Mercy should cover him with its all healing ægis! Jeeyaji Rao flew into a rage. His tenderest point had been touched; his highest interest—the British good will—was threatened. He must vindicate his character and status. He would put the pretensions of the Chancellor, so far as they made against the sovereign, to crucial practical test. He resolved to go through a fiery ordeal as it were, before the whole world. He knew he was master, and he would prove that he might be his own minister. It was most uphill work—almost a hopeless programme. The first step was to remove the offending Chancellor, and the British Government was pledged to maintain him. Before Maharaja's force of character and resolute persistency, the British refusal gave way. After repeated attempts to patch up differences irreconcilable, the Viceroy gave up the able minister to retain the powerful master. It was then that the Scindhia set up this Khadkey in the Chancellery, much as Tiberius appointed his donkey, Consul. It was a step too like the frivolous, involving a hazardous experiment; but no hazard was experienced. If all did not at first go merrily as a marriage-bell, there was at any rate no great dislocation in the administration. The Maharaja abundantly proved his point, by submitting himself and his system, such as it was, to a long—a life-long—trial—before all India. He established to every body's satisfaction that he and his Gwalior could do without the British favorite Dinkar Rao.

He showed his contempt for the great Dewan and his achievements in other ways. As the plain Dinkar had been created Raja, so was the simple Gunput. Then, Raja Dinkar Rao was understood to lay great store by his knighthood. Accordingly, his gracious master procured for Gunput that title. Altogether, in course of time, this lay figure of a Premier could call himself Lieutenant-Colonel Rao Raja Sir Gunput Rao Khudkey, Shamshere Jung Bahadoor.

Never was there so lucky an admitted nothing.

During all the time, Sir Gunput remained himself. Though he acquired much experience, he never developed capacity or character. Yet, the master had reason to regard his favorite with satisfaction, for lending himself to his great visible appeal to the British Government and the world, for proving his individuality and his loyalty to the Empire and to all his plans subsidiary thereto. He became more and more attached to his man. So far so good. Unfortunately, however, he came to dote on his favorite at last. The Maharaja confounded the distinction between how the poor thing was utilisable under the master's eye, and what it might prove independently, when that eye was removed. And so the Maharaja, leaving a minor heir at his death, earnestly desired that the British Government might leave, during the minority, his long-trusted agent Gunput at the head of the administration. And so he was put at the head of the Council of Regency. The Maharaja was afraid of nothing so much as foreign interference in the internal affairs of the State. The British were good in their way, and he respected them, but their ways were not suited to the natives, and nothing, in his opinion, could be more disastrous than their breaking through the traditions of Gwalior. Right or wrong, the Maharaja mistook his man by whom he hoped to preserve the integrity of Gwalior. As might be expected, Gunput proved a failure. He is regarded as little better than a traitor. He inaugurated his entrance into power by inducing the Council to abolish hoarding and lend the accumulations of the State to the British Government. That, under ordinary circumstances, might be just the thing to do. The British, at any rate, taught by Political Economy and saturated with commercial notions, could hardly be expected to favour the idea of leaving so much capital vegetating in the vaults without profitable employment. For Gunput, at any rate, it should have been different. He was the representative of the late Raja's views in the State and he knew Jeeyaji Rao's financial ideal, which is indeed the common Oriental one of a large reserve of unemployed capital. He sacrificed it to strengthen himself. Nor was this his only treason. He treated every interest and person cavalierly, neglecting the Palace itself. He had made himself so powerful that every body deemed it prudent to suffer his insolence and injustice in silence, from the Dowager Maharani downwards. He had, of course, virtually usurped the functions of the whole Council. The "adopted son" (in Indian parlance) of the politicals and the Foreign Office, he could well afford to do so. What did the politicals care if the people execrated his name? They were only careful not to let the Viceroy know what the people thought. But he is gone, let us forgive. It is enough to record that we cannot respect his memory.

THE VACANCY IN THE GWALIOR COUNCIL.

Who shall succeed? is the more practical question. A question important to the well-being of the State. The agents of candidates are already in the field, busy touting for their clients. Sir Gunput expired on Saturday last (18th August) and on Thursday the 23rd a leading article appeared in Calcutta strongly advocating the claims of Bhayyiah Bulwunt Rao Scindhia. The writer "has no hesitation whatever in saying that the Bhayyiah will be the right man in the right place." But our contemporary was never given to hesitation. No unworthy doubts disturb the even tenour of its mind, though storms of passion habitual-

ly assail it. But our native contemporary, as usual, has been deceived. It has taken a scarecrow in hand to frighten away all grave men and to amuse the waggishly disposed. Except when they are furnished with a special brief, our Bengal journalists do not concern themselves much with the affairs of Native States, and it is well that they do not, as thereby they save themselves from blunders. Thus, here we have our contemporary taking up, with its usual enthusiasm, the cause of a man who has not the slightest chance. In the opinion of the knowing, he is scarcely in the reckoning. The writer shows extraordinary ignorance. He is nonetheless peremptory in his demand :—

"If the Government of India, in selecting a successor to Sir Gunput Rao, should desire to give effect to the wishes of the Maharani Sahib and the people of Gwalior, their course is easy and plain. Their choice cannot fall upon a better individual than Bhayyiah Bulwant Rao Sindia, a member of the late Maharaja's family, who has been recently appointed a member of the Council."

Pure unwitting misleading that! The writer neither knows his own *protégé* nor the *personnel* of the Durbar for which he proposes arrangements. Is it to be supposed that the Dowager Maharani prefers a stranger to her own father, and that father so much longer in the Council than the candidate whose pretensions are put forward against the veteran's claims, various and of long standing? And do the Hindus of the great Mahratta State really hanker for the rule of one who is scarcely of their community—a pariah, in fact? The writer conclusively answers himself when he admits that his Bhayyiah is the most junior member of the Council. Surely, he ought to be content with the chance by which he finds himself in the Council at all, without aspiring to be its President over the heads of his seniors by far, who are also his betters in status and experience. His patron in the press designates the Bhayyiah roundly as "a member of the late Maharaja's family." Why does he not out with the whole story? Or, is it possible that he does not know? It is not likely to be in his brief. Yet, the name Scindhia should have warned him. If the client's connection with the royal family were perfectly honourable, ten to one, his specific relationship would be mentioned. But that was impossible, under the circumstances. The fact is, he is not of creditable origin. He calls himself the son of Jeeyaji Rao. Had he been the issue of a respectable connection, he would have been reigning these three years, instead of having lately succeeded in insinuating himself into the Council. He is, strictly speaking, only a son of a Mahomedan Cyprian. She is a famous character of the *demi monde* of India, and not the most respectable for that matter. She could not be kept within the decent bounds of a kept mistress. She was given a Palace, with a fine establishment and ample allowances, but she was no better than she should have been. Of stooping to folly, there was no end. She might at least take the shelter of the rose. But no! she did not care for appearances, any more than for honour—hers or his. It was here that the strength, for which Jeeyaji Rao was renowned and which he so amply showed in his vengeance on his minister Dinkar Rao, distinctly failed him. The great Mahratta was as dough in the hands of the Mahomedan Magdalene. In meekness, succumbed Mars to Venus. She was an incorrigible truant. A Bohemian to the backbone, she had an irresistible passion for loafing about. The Gypsy turn is difficult to conquer, but of all imps of naughtiness, the female Gypsy is the naughtiest. It was only the nomad instinct of the Mahratta Chief

that could put up with such an *ignis fatuus*. The late Maharaja repeatedly pardoned her, but she, as often, broke her pledge. Of a mercurial temperament, an accomplished Mussulmani of spirit, a grand singer, she loved to see the world and make love at her own sweet will. She several times strayed away, visiting the great cities of Hindostan, where she held *séances* of all the musicians and singers of the place, admiring and admired. When funds failed, she returned to fall at her princely lover's feet. The season of contrition would not be long. At last, she was thrown on the streets, as it were. She certainly came down to Calcutta as a professional dancing girl. With his usual partiality for Chandrabhaga, the Maharaja took her sons under his protection. The Bhayyiah is of these. Jeeyaji Rao shared the craze of the late Maharaja of Bulrampore, who made his Mussulmani woman's son a Hindu, though Scindhia never went to the length of the Premier Baron of Oudh. So Chandrabhaga's son was brought up as a Hindu, and retains an anomalous position in native society.

If the Government contemplate bringing in an outsider, well and good: There is a wide field for selection. The objection to outsiders is not worth a jot. Strange that it is the British officials themselves who start it and encourage others in it! What are the British themselves, but interlopers all, throughout the East? But, then, they always make a tacit exception in their favour. The prime object is to secure the safety, honor and good government of the State, and if fit natives are not to be had, strangers to a small extent may, and should, be introduced. But our speculation is vain. The prejudice prevails, and Government are scarcely strong enough for a bold departure, except to provide a British *protégé* who may be forced on it. We believe we may safely presume that there is no intention to seek elsewhere for a regent. If the choice is to lie within the Gwalior State, it is virtually restricted to the Council itself. In that case, we may almost take for granted that the Chair of the Council will be offered to the Senior Member, Bapu Sahib Jado. Nor do we see any objection to such a step. The arrangement will be natural and easy, and sure to meet with general satisfaction within the State. We have exhausted our space, or we should have liked to present to the reader the names and description of those constituting the Regency. We may, hereafter, set forth the rival claims of the different members, and compare them. Meanwhile, we may say in general terms that such a comparison gives the palm to Bapu Sahib. He is a highly respectable man, trusted by the people, as he was wont to be trusted by the late Maharaja. He has ample stake in the country, being one of the largest landed noblemen in it—a very great *jaghirdar*. Last not least, he is the father of the Dowager Queen, and, of course, grand-father of the present sovereign—the minor Maharaja.

THE ENGLISH IN FRANCE.

SKETCHED BY A FRENCH BRUSH.

(Translated for "Reis and Rayyet" from the Paris Correspondence of "Le Petit Bengali.")

The bad weather, which prevented the Parisians from going to the country or the watering places, could not deter Englishmen from invading Paris. Every year in spring, they come like swallows in great numbers to visit our metropolis. They encumber the compartments of railway carriages with their numerous packages—the *vade mecum* of British comfort. They occupy the saloons of hotels. At the table d'hôte or restaurant, they take up the best places and peep at the

choisest morsels. In the public places—the theatres and cafés—you often hear the Saxon idiom buzzing in your ear.

At picture-galleries, they gather round some celebrated pictures, fill the air with their guttural exclamations and banish from the place the peaceful visitor—the lover of calm and silence. As if the Parisian loungers are not enough to disturb us, we are invaded by the English cockneys! They emerge from every road, they enter every gate, they grimace at every window. Taciturn and monosyllabic in their island-home of fogs on the other side of the Channel, no sooner they touch the soil of France, a sort of transformation is operated in them by our clement sun, and they become boisterous, curious, and talkative. What a happiness not to understand the language of Shakespeare!

In the coolness of the morning, a walk under the trees of the Monceaux Park is delicious to a Parisian deprived of verdure. There are some good corners where, half stretched on the back, one can breathe the fresh morning air, allowing his spirit to rove about, before the city's roar well awake him once again. It is the fact. Hardly have I taken my seat, when a ringing noise of rolling carriages and of smacking whips, mixed with the uproar of British jargon, came to drive me from the spot.

These are the cars of the Agency of Cooke, and other contractors of peregrinations at a reduced price, who take their cargo of big folks of red hair to see the world. During summer I love the Park of Saint Cloud with its dome of foliage, on the soft grass of which, one extending at ease on his back, views the fumes of his cigar rising in curls, or reads some pages of his favourite author. Do not go there. You will come in collision with the caravan of English tourists, who will eye you from head to foot and consult their guides to assure themselves that you are not a curiosity. Our grand woods of Mendon, Verriere, Marly, Saint-Germain, no longer belong to us. They will soon be called Green Park and Hyde Park. At every turn, you are in danger of being knocked down by the cars of these excursionists. Too many Englishmen in our city! They have taken Paris from us; let them leave us our Suburbs, if they do not wish that we, imitating the example of the Great Republic with reference to China, should interdict by an Edict the importation of Englishmen into *la France*. Chased from the parks and the woods, I took my Thackeray by way of reprisals and began to relish—The Book of Snobs.

The class of English travellers who alight on Paris *en passant*, is not so bad as the set who sojourn long in our capital.

It is now a fashion in England for every rich shop-keeper to put into the pouch of his son a small packet of bank-notes and send him to sow his wild oats in our city—a great honour which the Englishmen do to us! The young man alights with his peculiar ideas of Paris; there he considers himself as in an inn, perhaps in those lodginghouses, which, at the entrance to Vienna, they propose to travellers.

He judges every Frenchman after those whom he saw in the Hay-market, and every Parisian according to the legend of bad novels and the accounts in the newspapers. Then it is not a visitor who comes to us, it is a vanquisher and a conqueror. Have you remarked the attitude of these conquerors in regard to our honest women? Those who in their island are under a chapter so severe, so formal, sometimes so ridiculous, will regard under their nose a Parisian dame and will not lose an occasion for a stupid insult.

In England, it is a great impropriety to smoke before a lady. I have lived in the environs of Paris and twenty times in railway trains I have been obliged to remind these gentlemen that it has been prohibited to smoke in a compartment where there are ladies.

It is now time to cut short the fable of generous Englishmen and prodigal *Milords*. The truth is that these passenger-sons of City tradesmen mean to make holidays at reduced rates. Consult the chronicles of gallantry from the alcoves of fashion and you will see which side of certain Parisian manners they adopt the soonest. Their reputation on this point has been made from a long time.

THE JAIN CASE IN THE HIGH COURT.

APPEAL No. 11 of 1888.

In the Goods of Cullumull Sett deceased.

Suruj Kumari Dasce *vs.* Lab Chand Sett.

Before Petheram, C. J., Norris and Beverley, J. J.

First Day. July 31, 1888.

Pugh with Sale and Abdur Rahman for Appellant.

Woodroffe with O'Kincaly for Lab Chand.

Sale opens: Cullumull died in 1875, leaving a will and a widow Munia Bibi and a daughter-in-law, widow of Nuthmull. By the will of Cullumull he appointed his brother Dhunsook Dass, Fool

Chand and his widow executors and executrix. Fool Chand and Dhunsook took out probate. Leave was reserved to widow. Fool Chand then died. Dhunsook died in 1875, and then the widow died. On the death of the widow Munia Bibi, Lab Chand, alleging himself to be adopted son, applied for Letters of Administration, under the will of Cullumull. The daughter-in-law is Choone Bibi.

To Court. My client does not take anything under the will, but we come in in case of intestacy.

Sale. They say that Suruj Kumari is not entitled to come in.

To C. J. Dhunsook Dass was uterine brother of Cullumull.

C. J. The best thing is to settle this matter and let Lab Chand have letters of administration.

Woodroffe. Suruj Kumari has no interest at all.

Sale continues.

C. J. A man who has no right to Letters of Administration, has no right to dispute the Letters to another.

Sale to Beverley J. Under Sec. 69 Probate and Letters of Administration Act citations are issued.

C. J. refers to Sec. 18 of the P & L Act. Reads Sec. 22, ditto.

Woodroffe. It has been held that those who are entitled to enter caveat are persons who would be entitled to Letters of Administration. They must have some interest.

C. J. Suruj Kumari will have some interest.

Sale. Under the Jain law she claims in preference to her son.

C. J. What would be under Hindu law?

Sale. She would have an interest under the Hindu law too.

Woodroffe. Dhunsook Dass died before Cullumull's widow. No Hindu widow gets any interest in any estate which does not vest in her husband.

Sale. Supposing Suruj Kumari was a Hindu, according to some Bombay cases, she will have an interest.

C. J. You say that if Lab Chand is out of the way, you are heir to Cullumull.

Sale. Yes.

C. J. The learned Judge below says that the adopted nephew takes before the mother. Was their case that the mother took in preference to the son?

Sale. The Jain law all.

C. J. You say the widow takes an estate. Does she take a life estate or an absolute estate?

Sale. She takes a life estate.

C. J. What questions do you like us to try now?

Sale. We say that the learned Judge was wrong in introducing the question of the adoption of Padam Chand.

C. J. At all events what you say is she takes life interest. How does she become an heir to her brother-in-law? The blood relations had to be exhausted.

Sale. Cullumull says in his will that the brothers are joint. Then I say that according to Jain law she is entitled.

C. J. We are trying your right to appear.

Sale. We say that the Judge below was wrong in raising the issue regarding Padam Chand.

Norris. J. Is not the learned Judge right in saying who you were to object to the Letters?

C. J. After issue that you have no *locus standi*, why should he try the other questions?

Sale. We also said that Lab Chand being so young was not fit to administer.

Norris. J. The truth is your former suit having been dismissed, you want to bring in this suit.

C. J. You say that under intestacy the widow takes in preference to son. In the case of property to which the husband would have been entitled if he had been alive, a Jain widow takes before her son in case of intestacy.

Sale. I would put it "a Jain widow succeeds to her deceased husband's brother's estate upon the death of such brother's widow in priority to her son." And apart from the Jain law, my client would have right of maintenance and therefore entitled to come in.

Sale reads judgment.

C. J. If a Hindu dies leaving a wife and son, do not the wife and son both take?

Sale. Not exactly, as held recently that the interest which the widow took, her share, was carved out of the son's estate.

C. J. What might have happened is this that you might have called a lot of Pandits who quote lots of authorities which have become obsolete, and the living Jains entirely repudiate the law.

Sale. The Pandits say that the law has not in any way been abrogated.

2nd Day. August 1, 1888.

Pugh follows.

C. J. Is the evidence of the Pandits against the people?

Pugh. No.

Norris. J. The Shastras come to this that the widow takes a higher estate than the son. That is all.

Pugh. Yes, but if it was a simple question of custom, the case would have been different. A son does not take until after the widow's death.

C. J. I had to consider the Jain custom as opposed to the Jain Shikhar in a case at Allahabad.

Norris. J. Probably you are desirous of getting leave to say that Jain custom in this case has not been proved. The logical conclusion of Trevelyan. J. is the same.

Pugh. Yes. As to evidence of custom, we have the evidence of Rup Chand Sitia and Sitalparshad. Cites I. L. R. 11 Cal. 492.

C. J. If the property belongs to Lab Chand, she is not entitled to any maintenance out of this property.

Pugh. No.

Norris. J. refers to Sec. 23 Probate and Administration Act.

Pugh. If she has got a right of maintenance, she has a right to proceed. Cites I. L. R., 6 Cal. 494. 2 Taylor and Bell, p. 190. I. L. R. 11 Bom. 199.

Woodroffe refers to 2 B. L. R. 15.

C. J. This question was not taken in the lower Court, nor is it taken as a ground of appeal.

Pugh. If I am entitled to maintenance, I am entitled to come as of right.

C. J. Norris. J. thinks you can't go into this question.

Norris. J. You will not be damnified by the grant of Letters to Lab Chand.

Woodroffe refers to Sec. 541 and 542, Civil Procedure Code.

Pugh reads Grounds. Reads I. L. R. 11 Bombay. There is no evidence that Dhunsook was adopted in the family.

Norris. J. Mr. Sale admitted that Dhunsook was adopted in another family.

Pugh. There is no evidence as to that and Mr. Sale's statement must have been

C. J. We cannot go into that case; it opens up a very large question. The only thing we can do is to remand the case to Court below.

Norris. J. You can bring a suit to establish your rights against Lab Chand, or may apply for revocation of the Letters.

Pugh closes.

Woodroffe not called upon.

Norris. J. The facts out of which this appeal arises may be shortly stated as follow. One Cullumul Sett who died on the 28th August 1875 made a will of which he appointed his brother Dhunsook Dass Sett and one Fool Chand Johurry the executors and Munia Bibee, his wife, executrix. The executors obtained probate of the will and leave was reserved to the executrix Munia Bibi to come in subsequently and obtain probate. Both the executors died and after the death of the survivor of the two, namely, on the 28th April 1886, the executrix, Munia Bibi applied for and obtained probate of the will. On the 20th May 1887, she died and on the 7th November 1887 Lab Chand Sett applied for Letters of Administration with the will annexed. The application set forth the facts I have already stated and alleged that the estate of Cullumul had not been fully administered, and that he the applicant was the only adopted son of one Nuthmull who was the only son of Cullumul, the deceased testator; that is to say, that he was the grandson of the testator. A caveat had been entered by one Suraj Kumari Dasi, I think in May 1886 or shortly after probate was granted to Munia Bibi, and she opposed the grant of Letters of Administration to Lab Chand Sett. She alleged that she was the only widow of Dhunsook Dass, the brother of the testator and one of the executors under his will, and that Lab Chand had not been duly adopted as a son; and that in the events which had happened there was an intestacy as to Cullumul's estate and that his property after his death vested in her husband Dhunsook Dass, and after his death in her as his widow.

On the caveat coming on to be argued before Mr. Justice Trevelyan that learned Judge framed the following issues: "Has the caveatrix Suraj Kumari Bibijany and what interest in the estate of the testator Cullumul Sett deceased, and is she entitled to contest the right of Lab Chand Sett to obtain Letters of Administration *de bonis non* with the will annexed to the estate and effects of the testator?"

Then in answer to her caveat, it was contended that Dhunsook Dass had adopted a son one Paddam Chand, that he was the heir to Cullumul if Cullumul had died intestate and that therefore the lady had not any interest, at any rate not sufficient interest to be allowed to come in and contest the right of Lab Chand to letters of administration. To this the lady replied to this effect: "even supposing my husband did leave an adopted son, according to the local custom of the Oswal caste of the Sitamberi sect of Jains, I am heir to my husband's brother."

The parties then went to trial upon this issue, and upon this issue Mr. Justice Trevelyan says: "During the course of the trial, in consequence of an objection taken to some of the evidence, I found it necessary to express my opinion of what I thought was the meaning of an issue of the description, and I am bound to say that, on a more careful consideration, I am more impressed with the view I then took. As I understand a proceeding of this kind and as I understand Section 23 of the Probate and Administration Act which governs this case, I must grant administration to the next of

kin of the deceased. Primarily the next of kin are entitled to Letters of Administration, and as I understand this issue it is not only an issue as to whether the caveatrix has any interest but I have also to decide whether she is entitled to contest the right of Lab Chand Sett to Letters of Administration. So far as I know, no person is entitled to contest a claim to Letters of Administration unless he has a prior right, and if this lady is not next of kin it follows she is not entitled to contest the application. The question whether she is next of kin depends upon whether she or Paddam Chand is entitled to succeed to the estate of the deceased. The question of Lab Chand's adoption has not been gone into here and has been postponed to the decision of the case. The lady admits nothing and the adoption is disputed. It was contended in the course of the trial that I should not go into any evidence as to Paddam Chand's adoption, and it was said that independent of that, the lady has a right to the estate. It seems to me that if Paddam Chand is the heir of the deceased, this lady can have no interest in the estate and therefore would not be entitled to contest the right of Lab Chand."

It has been argued before us in the first place, by Mr. Pugh, on behalf of the appellant, that the learned Judge was in error in not setting this down as a contentious cause before deciding the issue which he framed, but while that point is taken it is I think practically admitted that it really amounts to nothing more than a question of form and does not touch the merits of the case.

The second objection that was taken by the learned counsel is that the Judge was wrong in the view he took of the right of this lady to appear and contest the grant of Letters of Administration.

It may be and perhaps is the case that the learned Judge in the Court below has taken too narrow a view of the rights of parties to come in and contest the grant of Letters of Administration. But what Mr. Pugh seeks to do now is this: after having put his case in the Court below upon the ground that by the local custom of a particular caste of a particular sect of Jains to which this family belonged, his client was next of kin and had an interest in the estate and was entitled to contest the grant of Letters of Administration, he now seeks to take a different ground, it may be arising out of the ground that was taken below, but certainly an entirely different ground to the one taken below, and says, assuming for the sake of argument that I have not succeeded in proving the usage upon which I relied, yet I have a right to maintenance out of the estate in the hands of my husband's adopted son, and if I have such a right, I have a sufficient interest to entitle me to see that the estate goes into his hands and does not go into the hands of any other party.

We think that that is not a case which arises upon the facts, either found or agreed upon between the parties, and that that subsidiary case, as it were, ought not to be allowed to be now made for the first time in this Court, and I may further say that if Mr. Pugh's contention is right, as to which I express no opinion at all, it will be open to him to raise the point in one of two ways, he may either sue the parties in whose hand the estate is to get that right of maintenance declared or he may apply for revocation of the Letters of Administration.

The learned Judge then proceeds to consider two questions of fact: first whether Paddam Chand was the legally adopted son of Dhunsook Dass, and, secondly, whether the caveatrix had proved the local custom which she alleged, and he finds as to the first of these questions that the adoption of Paddam Chand is proved and proved by the brother of the caveatrix, and as to this there is no appeal. The learned Judge also finds that the alleged custom is not proved; and from that finding the caveatrix appeals.

The evidence that was adduced to prove the custom was that of certain Jain pundits who professed to be, and it may be were acquainted with the written law of the Jain community as contained in some old manuscript books, and the learned Judge seems to have been of opinion that those books were authentic. In these books there were certain texts which were accepted by the learned Judge as authorities for the proposition that among the Jains a widow succeeds to her husband's estate before the son. I have looked at the evidence and considered it, and what it seems to me to amount to is this, that these pundits were of opinion, and their opinion was corroborated by reference to these early manuscript books, that among the Jains, at the time these books were written, a Jain widow occupied a somewhat higher position than that occupied by a Hindu widow, and that her estate, whatever it is, is a higher estate than that of a Hindu widow, and that when it came into existence it was enjoyed before the son took his estate.

Mr. Justice Trevelyan then goes on to say, that, though that is the opinion of the pundits who have been called and though that opinion is corroborated by the books which they produce, he finds that as a matter of fact the precepts contained in these books is opposed to the practice of the Jain community. He found upon the evidence, instances of a son suing whilst his mother was living, that is, of suits being brought in the son's name whilst the mother was alive, and upon a consideration of the whole of the evidence, into the details of which it is not necessary for me to enter, he came to the conclusion that the local usage as alleged by the caveatrix was not proved, and with that conclusion we entirely agree.

It must be distinctly understood that, in dismissing this appeal, as

we do dismiss it with costs, we express no opinion as to what the local usage or custom among this particular sect of Jains may be; all we say is that we agree with the learned Judge in the conclusion to which he came that the caveatrix did not succeed in proving the local usage upon which she relied.

We therefore think that this appeal must be dismissed with costs.

Petheram. C. J. I agree with my brother Norris that this appeal must be dismissed with costs and I only wish to add one word. The lady who was objecting to the grant of Probate was objecting on the ground that she was entitled to the property and that was the ground upon which she based her case and she sought to establish that by the assertion of two matters as matters of fact; first of all, that the person who was said to be the adopted son of her husband had not been adopted by him and secondly that even if he were so adopted, according to the custom of a particular sect in the particular locality in which she lived, she, as widow, took an interest prior to that son. Both these matters were put forward as matters of fact and not as matters of law.

With reference to the adoption of the son, Mr. Justice Trevelyan has found that the adoption was a valid adoption, and as to the other point there is no appeal, and the only real ground of appeal is that

this alleged custom is proved. Looking at the evidence which was before the Judge, I can only say that I agree with him that the custom is not proved.

As to Mr. Pugh's contention that, notwithstanding that she has an interest which would entitle her to object to these Letters of Administration being granted, I think myself that in a court of appeal any point of law is open for argument which arises upon the facts which were found or admitted in the case. But I do not think any point is open for argument which necessitates the taking of other evidence, because it is clear that that would not be an appeal from the Judge upon the hearing but it would be a new trial. The question which Mr. Pugh now seeks to raise in this appeal, and having regard to the fact that the establishing this local custom would involve the taking of fresh evidence, is not, in my opinion, open to him to raise in this appeal, and further I do not think there is necessity to remand this case, for the purpose of taking fresh evidence, because this is really only a question as to the person to whom Letters of Administration should be granted, for to whomsoever it is granted, he must give security and does not decide any person's right in the case, and therefore I do not see any necessity to take such a course. Beverley. J. I concur.

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NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the Calcutta High Court in his Sale room in the Court House on Saturday the 8th September next at the hour of 12 O'clock at noon pursuant to a decree and order of the said Court made in Suit No. 91 of 1882 (wherein Kherode Behary Gossain is plaintiff and Unno Poorna Dasse and another are defendants) and dated respectively the 3rd day of April 1882 and the 5th of December 1884 the undermentioned properties namely:—

Lot I.—All that undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part or share of the defendants of and in the upper-roomed dwelling house being premises No. 1/1 Aushootosh Dey's Lane formerly known as No. 97 Bulloram Dey's Street in the Town of Calcutta containing by estimation 3 cottahs 14 chittacks and 39 square feet of land and bounded on the East by Ram Chunder Dutt's dwelling house on the West by Aushootosh Dey's Lane on the South by Gogun Chunder Bysack's dwelling house and on the North by Sonatun Dutt's dwelling house.

Lot II.—All that undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ share of the defendants in the piece or parcel of rayyeti land situate and being No. 57-1 Pathoria-ghatta Street in the Town of Calcutta containing by estimation 15 chittacks and 19 square feet of land and bounded on the East by Gogun Chunder Bysack's rayyeti land on the West by Shib Chunder Bysack's rayyeti land on the North by Pathoriaghata Lane and on the South by Horro Nauth Bysack's family dwelling house.

Lot III.—All that undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part or share of the defendants of and in all that Garden land in the village Dakhinessur Thana Bone Hooghly Sub-Registry Khurdah in the District of 24-Pergunnahs being holding No. 12 containing by estimation 6 Bighahs more or less and situate on the North of the public road South of Allison's land East of Chunder Mohun Bysack's Garden and West of Kally Krishna Chowdry's Garden.

Lot IV.—All that undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part or share of the defendants of and in the two annas two gundahs two kurras and two krants share of the one-storied rayyeti building No. 37/38 in Monohur Dass's Street Barabazar in the Town of Calcutta bounded on the East by the rayyeti land of Shamul Dhone Dutt and others on the West by Monohur Dass's Street on the North by Behary Lall Auddy's rayyeti land and on the South by Shamul Dhone Dutt's rayyeti land.

The conditions of sale and the abstract of title may be seen at the office of the Registrar High Court Original Side and at the office of Messrs. Swinhoe and Chunder the attorneys for the plaintiff on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

(Sd.) R. BELCHAMBERS,
Registrar.

Swinhoe and Chunder,
Plaintiff's Attorneys.
High Court,
Ordinary Original Civil
Jurisdiction.
The 4th August 1888.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOW JAH BAHADOOR,
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "We serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kiisto Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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We have read Srimati Girindra Mohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1888.

No. 339

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE FRESHER SPRING TIME.

It comes again, thrilling each sense in turn !
We strain the eye to see, the ear to hear ;—
It sickens in each sense and dies of fear,
Yet leaves the spirit tiptoe-set to learn.
We, wondering, look on all sides to discern
Aught of its leaving ; turning quick to peer
Into the by-ways of the soul, crying, " Who goes here ? "
But answer comes not, though the temples burn.

What is it ? Who can tell ?—but this we feel,
The moment is as though a rich new birth
Fought with the old to give us liberty :—
The pulse of newness makes the senses reel,
The long-loved past is as a dream, and earth,
Ocean, and sky are quick with mystery !

JOHN HOBGEN.

BONAMY PRICE.

[IN MEMORIAM.]

WHO that beheld and knew thee, but would fain
Preserve thy image for the coming race ?
The prompt, quick mien ; the vivid, mobile face ;
Broad brow, firm lip ; the invigorating strain
Of converse ; argument, that ne'er would gain
A point unfairly ; tales that ran apace,
Not scant, nor overfull ; the softer grace
And tenderer manner, growing with life's wane.

Children would fly yet seek thee, half-dismayed
But wholly mirthful ; every living thing
Felt thy electric presence, and was stirred.
Now all thy cares, thy thoughts, with God are laid
In silent peace, till thine eternal spring
Blossoms at bidding of our Father's word.

J. R. M.

DESPAIR—OF FAME.

[The author of these lines—a girl of twenty-five—was drowned in a Welsh river last August. The night before her death she was heard to say : " If I do not die soon, I think I shall make something of poetry."]

If this poor name of mine, now writ in sand
On Life's grey shore, which Time for ever laves—
—A hungry ocean of unresting waves—
Might but be graven on rock, and so withstand
A little while the weather and the tide,
Great joy were mine. Alas ! I cannot guide
My chisel right to carve the stubborn stone
Of Fame ; and so the numbness of despair

Invades me ; for the sounding names are there
Of all Earth's great ones ; and methinks mine own
Fades in their music ; yet before the light
Has vanished from the sky, and unblest night,
In which no man can work, shall stain the air,
I stand and weep on the grey shore—alone.

VIRGIL.

" Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas,
Atque metus omnes et inexorabile fatum
Subjecit pedibus, strepitumque Acherontis avari."
" Sunt lacrymæ rerum, et mentem mortalia tangunt."—VIRGIL.

" HAPPY were he who could attain to know
Causes of things, and underneath his feet
Set fear and fate, and the unreturning flow
Of all-devouring Acheron." Oh ! unmeet
Such tearless Stoic calm for thee, the sweet
Half-Christian poet of the Pagan age,
Whom later times esteemed a wizard sage,
And Dante as his guide rejoiced to greet ;
Tender as woman, and as childhood pure !
Not thoughts like those shall in his mind endure
Who learns aright the lore thy genius brings ;
/ But human sympathy for human woe,
And words of thine which tell that " tears must flow,
And hearts of men are touched by mortal things."

JOSEPH JOHN MURPHY.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Sikkim difficulty thickens. The capture of Fort Lingtu has only enraged the Lhasa-Lamas and the Tibetians. They showed fight and attacked Gnatong at the end of May, and there were other preparations on the slopes of the Jelepla. Our troops have been strengthened, and a sharp and decisive action is awaited.

THE Legislative Assembly of the Hawaiian Islands has passed a Bill, by thirty five votes against ten, abolishing the naval establishment and reducing the army to sixty-five men. Here is a Lilliput of a State, to be sure. It could hardly take the field against the Republic of San Marino.

MR. TUCKER, the Second Assistant to the Resident, Hyderabad, has sentenced Mr. Job Salomon, the editor, *Hyderabad Record*, to six months' imprisonment for libelling Mr. G. W. Leach, a pleader of Secunderabad. A Mr. Howard alias Durant admitted having written the article complained of. But he was not proceeded against in Court.

ACCORDING to the *Advocate*, the *Dharam Jivan*, a vernacular paper of Lahore, learns that Mr. Larpent, of the great bribery case of Lahore, has been appointed Sub-editor of the *Pioneer*, and is to get Rs. 1,000 a month.

Mr. Larpent is well-connected, but the report requires confirmation.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

THE Cantonment Magistrate has fined a municipal Commissioner of South Barrackpore Rs. 10, for some old and rusty guns discovered in his house by the Police. They would have been better employed in detecting thefts. It strikes us that in the liberal interpretation of the Arms Act, by rules under it, the municipal Commissioners, like Honorary Magistrates, ought to be exempted from its operation.

THE Vernacular Press in the N. W. Provinces is said to have been placed under the superintendence of the Police. The office of the Reporter has certainly been removed from Allahabad to Lucknow and placed under the charge of Mr. Barriell, the newly appointed Assistant to Inspector-General of Police.

A GOODS train on the East Indian Railway had carried along with its contents, a lad from Girihdi to Mogul-Serai, who fed himself for five whole days on the aroma of the confined coal. His cries at every halting station were lost on the ears of the Railway people, till they attracted notice at Mogul Serai, where he was released more dead than alive.

ACCORDING to a St. Petersburg telegram, Colonel Prejavalsky was to have started this week on an exploring expedition in the west and south-west of Central Asia, with Lhasa in view. It is timed for two years and consists of 71 persons inclusive of 24 Cossacks.

THE Parsee Cricketers who are now in England to give battle to the natives show a great improvement on their invasion of 1886, and, of course, earn better success. They doubtless kept up practice, but they evidently profited by their English experience too. In their previous visit,

"their batting lacked the most essential quality—defence—their bowling, while none too straight, was of erratic length, and their fielding was frequently loose and unreliable."

"Now their batting, if wanting in dash, is marked by care and judgment; the bowling is of fairly good length, and the fielding, judged by its high standard yesterday, would not suffer in comparison with that of the best English elevens."

Such is the testimony of the *Northampton Daily Chronicle* quoted in the *Rast Gofar*. There was a great contest at Northampton, in which the natives were totally worsted.

It will be observed that there are natives and natives, even on *terra firma*. It may be some consolation to our Anglicising countrymen that, under certain circumstances, even the best British are no better than natives.

SIR CHARLES and lady Dilke are coming out to India, having already engaged passages by the *Locksley Hall*. They will not land at Bombay, but go direct to Karachi *en route* to the Frontier. Their object is to judge the strength of the costly defences raised up as a barrier against the approach of Russia.

M. MATHINET, the new Director of the Interior in French India, took over charge of the Pondicherry Government on the 21st August.

SIXTY-FIVE regiments of the Native Army will be armed with the Martini-Henry on the 1st January 1889.

THE Bombay Chamber of Commerce has protested against the recent large withdrawals from the Bombay Bank to swell the Reserve Treasury.

WHILE crossing at Broach, a boat with fifty passengers sank on the turbulent Nerbudda. Thirty-one of them are missing.

THE Government offices break up at Simla on Saturday, the 3rd November, and reopen at Calcutta on Monday the 19th.

CHURAMON, Lychanpur, and Suburnarekha, in Balasore, have been closed as Customs Ports.

THE Home remittances from the commencement of the current official year to end of last week, amounted to £5,274,900.

NARAYENRAO WASUDEV KHARKAR, the Palitana Dewan, will shortly resign his place, to be succeeded by Chunilal Sarabhai, the Diwan of Idar.

COUNSELLOR POLLARD is of opinion that the Deccan Mining concession was obtained by fraud, and that there are grounds for an action for cancelment.

MR. CRAWFORD has memorialised the Government of India on his own case. He prefers to be tried by the High Court, failing which by a Commission of other than Bombay officers.

ONE T. Vencatasubbier has sued Raja G. N. Gajapathi Rao, of Vizagapatam, for Rs. 5,000 being his promised remuneration for negotiating the marriages of the Raja's two daughters.

THE last week's *Gazette of India* contains the rules about certificates of age and nationality of candidates for examinations for the Indian Civil Service held in England.

THE Hon'ble R. F. Rampini and H. W. Gordon cease to be Officiating Puisne Judges of the High Court from the 24th and 10th September respectively.

IN compliance with a memorial from the inhabitants, the Bombay Government have appointed the District Collector and Magistrate President of the Broach Municipality. Mr. T. D. Mackenzie is said by the *Rast Gofar* to be a capable and conscientious officer.

A FRENCHMAN has produced a noiseless clock. Instead of a pendulum, the hands are moved by the unrolling of a chain fastened to a buoy floating in a tank of liquid. At the same time, the liquid may be made to feed a lamp.

GENERAL SHERIDAN, affectionately known among his troops as "Little Phil," who so distinguished himself in the American Civil War, died at his country residence at Nonquit, Massachusetts, early last month.

THE next Half-yearly Departmental Examination of Assistants and Deputy Magistrates, in both the Regulation and Non-Regulation Districts, and of officers in the Police, Jails, Medical, Forest and Opium Departments, begins on Wednesday, the 7th November next.

THEY are casting in the Yellow Monastery, near Peking, a bronze figure of Buddha for presentation to the Thibetian Lama. It will measure 45 Chinese feet in height. The proportions may be imagined from the fact that the ears are of such a size that a man may be inserted in their cavities.

UNDER the Aden Pilgrims and Paupers Regulation, 1887, order has been issued prohibiting the conveyance to, and landing at, Aden of indigent persons, whether pilgrims or not, who are natives of Asia or Africa. The rendering of any aid by any ship-master or other person towards that object is equally forbidden.

THE Jubilee offering of the "daughters of the Empire" amounts to £84,116 net. The Children's Tribute exceeds £6,000. Of the former, England contributed 2,206,122, Scotland 415,165, Ireland 153,620, Wales 172,948, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark 8,883, Jersey 4,703, Isle of Man 3,290, Y. W. C. Association 16,666, foreign per Lady Paget 1,035, and various 5,859, Ceylon 100,000, Burma 70,000, grand total 3,162,256.

HERE is the latest development of education in go-ahead America:—

"The Cornell University in the United States is about to establish a school of journalism, with the aim of 'fitting students for the walks of newspaper life in all its varieties.' Professor Smith, at present Professor of Elocution in the University, an 'old newspaper man,' is to be at the head of the new department. Classes of juniors, seniors and graduates will be formed at once. The students will roam about in the neighbourhood of their town, and bring in reports of public meetings, murders, 'personal' scandals, and the like. They will also write leading articles and criticisms of books. Professor Smith will receive the 'copy,' and publicly edit it in presence of the class."

THE rules about prosecutions against public officers have been thus revised by the Bengal Government:—

"1. When a prosecution against an officer of Government is instituted by a public servant, the officer charged will be left to defend himself, but Government will defray his reasonable costs in the event

of his being acquitted and it being shown that his conduct throughout had been free from all blame. If, though acquitted of the offence charged, his conduct should appear not to be free from blame, he will receive only such portion, if any, of the cost incurred by him as may seem fitting to the Government.

2. When an action or prosecution is instituted by a private person against a public servant for acts done in the discharge of his public duty, the officer concerned should communicate the facts to his official superior, reporting all circumstances which may be necessary to enable such superior officer and the Government to arrive at a decision on the merits of the case. In cases of importance where a reference will not involve serious delay, such facts should be reported immediately to Government for orders. Should the Government decide to undertake the defence of the case, the Government Pleader will be instructed to appear, otherwise the officer charged will be left to make his own arrangements. In (a) unimportant cases, and (b) cases of urgency where reference to Government would involve serious delay, District Officers and Heads of Departments should use their own discretion regarding the measures to be taken.

3. Where no appearance is entered on behalf of Government and the action is dismissed, or the accused discharged or acquitted, the case will be dealt with as is provided under rule 1, allowance being made for the expenses (if any) realizable under the order of Court.

4. It is to be distinctly understood that charges, the payment of which may be applied for under these rules, must be moderate, and that the Government does not bind itself to pay unnecessary expenses which the officer concerned may choose to incur. In petty cases an appearance in person will be often quite sufficient, and where this is so the employment of a pleader is superfluous. In the same way requests for the payment of Counsel will be entertained only under very exceptional circumstances."

THE average attendance at the Indian Museum, for the 23 days of July, was 1,659, 38,164 persons in all having visited, as follows:—natives, 29,918 males and 7,833 females—Europeans, 333 males and 80 females.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

ISHAK KHAN, the Governor of Afghan Turkistan, has raised the standard of revolt against his master. He has removed from his headquarters at Mazar-i-Shureef to the Shadian Hills. He sent out two regiments to Maimma to spread the revolt, but these went over to Herat and reported the matter. Ishak is a cousin of the Amir and is believed in Cabul to have an eye on the Amirship. Abdur Rahman always distrusted him and several times summoned him to the capital. But he always avoided the call. In the last, he scented a rat and warned his followers at the capital to remove their families. The Boundary Commissioners found him more a priest than a Governor, he was so much given to outward shows of religion. Nevertheless, he is a capable Governor and always promptly suppressed local disturbances.

ANOTHER pretty prospect for the poor tax-payer! A mission has been deputed to Cabul. And why? Because friend Abdur Rahman, good soul, is anxious to have the advice of friend Dufferin on "certain matters of importance on which he has doubts." Nothing could be better, of course. And so the Viceroy's Private Secretary and the Public Secretary in the Foreign Office have been despatched all the way to the heart of Afghanistan, the one to represent the Government, and the other to supply, vicariously though, the personal viceroyal element and sanction.

To descend to particulars, the Mission is headed by Mr. H. M. Durand, the Foreign Secretary, and will be escorted by a squadron of the 18th Bengal Lancers with Captain G. A. Money as Commander and Lieutenants Eardley-Wilmot and K. Chesney as Subalterns. The other members of the Commission are Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace, Lieutenant-Colonel Neville Chamberlain, one Punjab frontier official, Lieutenant-Manners Smith, military Attaché in the Foreign Office, and Dr. Owen, Staff Surgeon to Sir Frederick Roberts in Cabul in 1879-80. Sir Afzar Jung of the Nizam's Army and some other native officers of the Indian Army familiar with Afghanistan also are attached. The party *rendevous* at Lundi Khana whence the Mission makes ten marches to Cabul, where its stay is not to exceed a fortnight. The mission starts from Peshawar immediately and returns to it early next month.

This Advising Expedition is rather a costly luxury, the repetition of which must be embarrassing. It may be endured once in an age, but there is no guarantee against its forming a precedent. So far as we may venture to judge from the dark, it seems a needless departure. Could not the matters be disposed of by correspondence? There are

doubtless delicate subjects which cannot well be so disposed of. We hope the Viceroy is satisfied that the doubts which oppress the Ameeri mind appertain to such subjects. Unless the Government were apprised of the questions, how could they undertake to advise on them? Surely, the advising commission are not armed with a *carte blanche* to settle matters of imperial policy and international difficulty.

The expense is the least part of the matter. What we are really afraid of, is that this is the forerunner of what is to come. If this peaceful mission does not lead to war, it may lead to preparations for the future. The Ameer may have invited the British representatives for the purpose of palavering them to obtain a large grant of money and munitions of war, to enable him to conquer and subdue his dependent chiefs and the independent chiefs around him, on promise of presenting a strong and united front of resistance to the inevitable Russian advance. And no doubt that is a paramount object worth the sacrifice.

WE notice that in some quarters Sir Dinkar Rao is recommended for the office of President of the Gwalior Regency. An unfortunate suggestion. The famous Brahman never did well again after he fell under the evil eye of his once indulgent master the late Sindhia. He had more than one opportunity of distinguishing himself, after his retirement from Gwalior, and he had the inestimable advantage of thorough British support, but he failed and was speedily compelled to beat a retreat. In Rewah, he had for rival a Bengali, who had neither his prestige nor any local connections. Yet he found himself no match for the Baboo. And now he is old and superannuated, it would almost be a pity to disturb him in his retirement. He has long since abandoned all thoughts of active service. He may possibly still clutch at an offer to rule in the old scene of his power and glory. It will hardly redound to his credit. What is worse, it will probably be regarded as a calamity in Gwalior. Certainly, many influential families in that State will be in terror at the prospect of the old minister's return. Those who supported the late Maharaja Jeeyaji Rao in his resolve to drive him out and keep him out, or to undo his minister's work before and after he finally left Gwalior, have real cause for apprehending the minister's vengeance. In fine, he will never do.

THE following, from the *Bombay Gazette*, is going the round of the press as "A Hard Case":—

"The Civil Service Commissioners have been troubled by a delicate question. A candidate for the Indian Service appeared before them who said he was born in Oudh on July 13, 1869. 'Was he a British subject?' asked the Commissioner. 'The subject of a protected Native State is not a natural born subject of the Queen—unless he happened to have been born within the Queen's Dominions.' This decision puts Indian princes and their subjects very much in a position of independence. It seems that the candidate and his father have recently resided in Hyderabad, but nothing more is said as to the identity of this A.B., as he is designated. He was not allowed to compete, not being a British-born subject."

To us, this is rather an incomprehensible case. We do not question the dictum of Mr. Pontifex. It is an indisputable proposition in law that the subjects of native states, even of the smallest in Katywar or the most obscure in the hills of Orissa, whose Chief trembles before the pettiest British official, are not the subjects of the Queen. That is law, though the fact may seem otherwise. Yet it is a law which the Indian Bureaucracy would fain abolish, as they do their best to ignore it in practice. But surely this law does not put out the candidate mentioned. If his birth place and birth date are correctly given, he is not only a British subject but a British-born subject too, in Mr. Pontifex's meaning of that phrase—that is, a man born in the Queen's own dominions, either at Home or abroad. Born in Oudh in 1869, he is indubitably a full subject of Her Britannic Majesty from birth. How he came to be denied permission to compete in London for the Indian Civil Service, we really do not understand.

NAWAB Khurshed Jah Shumsul Omrah Bahadoor, the Premier noble of the Deccan, as head of the Household or Paiga Force, not only owns a large hereditary Jageer worth several lacs a year, but also a separate jurisdiction on, and in respect of, the estate. The Nawab bears a high character as a Mahomedan nobleman of the old school. He is not only free from degrading vices, but, unlike many an Indian of opulence in the Deccan or elsewhere, he is assiduous in the management of his vast property. From recent intelligence, it would seem that the Nawab's jurisdiction is not free from the corruption prevailing in the entire Government. He has

suspended the Nazim of his City Court and appointed Talooqdar Syed Akbar Ali to prosecute the Moulvie for embezzlement of Stamp Revenue and criminal misappropriation in general and forgery, before Mr. R. D. Hare, Sudder Talooqdar and Chief Judge of his Court of Sessions. With so many high and mighty delinquents just now being caught all over India, with a classical Resident of Hyderabad and a critical Judge in Bengal—both of the Covanted Civil Service—just forced to retire, with a Divisional Commissioner in Bengal disgraced the other day, and another far more eminent Divisional Commissioner in Bombay just now to be tired, this may seem almost prosaic business. But there is always sure to be something to prick up attention in Hyderabad matters. Accordingly, we learn that on the 9th August, five days after information was laid against the Moulvie (on the 4th), the poor prosecutor Akbar Ali was surprised by a number of roughs at dinner at his own house and left *hors de combat*.

WE have much pleasure in reproducing the following paragraph from the *Army and Navy Gazette* of the 4th August :—

"'Bother your sympathy!' exclaimed a choleric Confederate to a British friend of the South in 1862; 'it doesn't fight! Burn a little gunpowder for us, and then we'll believe you are some pumpkins.' The Danes, who are assured by the metropolitan journals that they are so dearly loved, and that gallant little Denmark was an object of the deepest interest, solicitude, and admiration to us when she was fighting for her Alsace-Lorraine in 1864, very likely feel as the 'Secesh' gentleman did; and when the Danes read all the flummery poured out on them by the London papers *à propos* of the German Emperor's visit to Copenhagen, they may exclaim, 'Save us from our friends.' Imagine how we would take such twaddling philanthropy from the press of Denmark if Ireland were wrested from the Union by force of alien arms! It is a delusion much to be shunned and deprecated, but it is one very vigorous in the minds of Englishmen, that if they utter pretty expressions they are conferring substantial benefits on the objects of their praise. The feeling of the Danish Commonalty was unmistakably shown during the Imperial Visit to Copenhagen."

Them's our sentiment! In this canting age, it is refreshing to come upon such straightforward language. Bad as injustice is, it is more endurable in its downright avowed ill will than the mockery of its disguise of favour and love, duty and humanity. Probably, the most irritating of all our miseries, from the selfishness of a close governing body, is the unctious talk *ad nauseam* of our good being the guiding principle of action of men who are always aggrandising themselves at the expense of every other interest, and supporting each other in their worst pretences even unto guilt.

HERE, from the *Army and Navy Gazette*, is a neat account of the little quarrel between France and Italy which may yet develop into an affair of gravity and perhaps a calamity to the world :—

"Neither France nor Italy has any right to Massowah. But Italy has the substantial possession which is considered the title-deed of the occupier who chooses to hoist his flag on any barbarous coast. The theory of the European Powers is that there are no native rights to the coasts on which they live—that is to say, that if any man-of-war takes a fancy to a piece of black-fellow's land, he has only to land and seize it, should he not have been preceded by the ship of some other civilised State. But in the case of Massowah there was an actual occupation by an Egyptian garrison as holders of it for the Khedive on behalf of the Sultan. These officers and soldiers marched out under protest; their flag was hauled down, and the Italians hoisted their own on the Turkish flagstaff. The *Times* accepts—or rather affirms—that there was no force at Massowah when the Italians appeared, and that it was what lawyers call *res nullius*; but the proposition cannot be maintained for a moment. It is in flat opposition to recorded facts. As a Turkish possession Massowah was subject to the Capitulations, and the French claim for French subjects there the benefit of exemption from taxation, and the Italians refuse to admit the exemption—a pretty quarrel as it stands."

And capable of developing into a serious complication, specially after the recent despatch of Signor Crispi, backed presumably by the Berlin Chancellery. We believe France will have to submit in the end, the more so as, under the Law of Nations, she has no *locus standi*.

FROM the same source, we learn with satisfaction that the most conciliatory disposition prevails in the ministry towards the poor Zulus. Sir Henry Bulwer and the General in command of the Dinizulu Expedition have been warned that the recent outrages are not to be punished with any severity. As soon as armed resistance is at an end, every attempt is to be made to induce the Zulus to settle down to their wonted peaceful avocations.

THE Czar has lost his Fouché. On the morning of the Festival at Kieff, on the 9th centenary of the conversion of the Russians to Chris-

tianity, the Governor-General (of the South Eastern Provinces) was killed by a fall from his horse. He rose through Guards to the chief command of the rearguard in charge of the communications in the Turkish campaign of 1877. He gave so much satisfaction as, on the conclusion of war, to receive the highly confidential and responsible office of the head of the secret police (known as the Third Section) and Corps of Gendarmerie. Accordingly, he became the objective of the Nihilists, one of whom, Mirsky, followed him on horseback alongside his carriage on the quay of the Neva, till he shot him through the carriage window. In 1881, he was appointed to the joint office of Governor-General of South Eastern Russia (Kieff, Podolia, and Volhynia) and General of the local military Division. A member of the Privy Council and Adjutant-General to the Czar, he received, in March last, the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle, the highest in the Empire. His Majesty telegraphed a message of condolence to the widow of the deceased.

AMERICA is always supplying something to talk of :—

"A shower of hat recently occurred in Norfolk county, U. S. Several hundred straw hats fluttered down from the clouds into the streets of Medfield, though not a few stayed their descent on church-steeple and house-roofs. A cyclone that had visited a hat factory some ten miles off was the cause of this singular occurrence. It had carried to the upper regions of the air some hundreds of straw hats, which were drying in bushels on the grounds of the factory, and had blown them along till they were raised exactly over Medfield, when they gently came down."

What a mockery of a windfall! To what base uses may the grand forces of Nature may be put! It is as bad as the trick of the Theosophists, who employ Mahatmas as hawk-runners in the air to bring messages that never mean much, if anything at all, in particular, from Thibet, on genuine De la Rue, or that of the Spiritualists, who call up the spirit of Shakespeare to indite doggerel. A cyclone to set hats and umbrellas flying about! And then a shower of straw hats! Fie, Jonathan, fie! One would suppose you would prefer to set free the dollars of your Goulds and Mackays, and send them flying 'cross country and descending on the lap of the poor emigrants in your backwoods—it would not do to choose such infidel regions as the Atlantic States, and specially the great cities, for the scene of anything like a miracle. You were never given to unmanly punctilios when bent on feats on your long bow, as famous as the shield of Achilles. What, at all events, prevented you from letting slip the scrips of your bloated over-laden plutocrats?

ENGLISH law is scarcely less ruinous at Home than Abroad. Mr. Hutt, the clergyman, who unsuccessfully prosecuted the pedagogues of Haileybury College for defaming his son, a boarder there, as a thief, has been £800 out of pocket. A subscription is on foot for his relief. He must need it sorely. The Reverend gentleman is a poor servant of his master, who has dutifully observed the divine command to increase and multiply, having already thirteen sons and daughters. What would a famous pedagogue of the old Haileybury—Parson Malthus—have said to him?

FROM Ritualism to Romanism, the descent is easy, as that down Aver-nus, and we are not surprised that the great patron of ecclesiastical millinery in the Anglican nobility, the Duke of Newcastle has joined the Catholic Church.

It has all gone for nought—all the ado taken by the gifted Disraeli to invest his sovereign mistress with the title of Empress and all the *tamashah* (*Anglice*, tomfoolery) with which his Lieutenant celebrated the investiture in India. The veriest accident seems now sufficient to keep Her Majesty out of her title. The wife of the late Emperor of Germany and King of Prussia bearing the same name with our gracious sovereign, the latter must practically fall back upon her old distinction. On the Continent, they are respectively termed Empress and Queen. Even in England, to avoid the confusion of identity, the royal press designates the English sovereign as the Queen Victoria, and the Consort of the late German Kaiser as the Empress Victoria.

THE office of Librarian to Her Majesty at Windsor Castle is expected to be vacant, in the event of the present incumbent Mr. Holmes getting a post in the British Museum. Mr. Sidney Colvin, the eminent critic of art and letters, is expected to succeed him. The place will suit him exactly. The Castle is famous for its Raphael cartoons. It has probably the richest collection of prints and miniatures.—Mr. Colvin is of the Colvins of India.

MR. HOOKHAM FRERE'S splendid collection of manuscripts has been advertised. Besides other rare and unique treasures, there are 311 of the Paston Letters. Much as the authenticity of the correspondence of the Paston family has been questioned by eminent critics like the late Mr. Herman Merivale, its substantial *vraisemblance* strikes every body, and its value as a picture of contemporary manners is recognised by the best historians. The late Mr. Green places it among his authorities, in his brilliant and masterly Short History. We expect a scramble for the possession of these treasures.

Mr. Frere, though now forgotten, was once a literary and political character. He was associated with Canning, Ellis and Gifford in the *Anti-Jacobin*, in which he was one of the writers of nearly all the quips and cranks, the parodies and squibs which made that brilliant periodical famous. His specimen of a poem on King Arthur was the precursor of *Don Juan*. In 1809, the same literary friends joined by Scott, a seceder from the *Edinburgh Review*, founded the Tory *Quarterly Review*. Frere was a fine scholar in English as well as the classics. He had a rich fancy, and his capacity for versification was wonderful. With more imagination, and a greater love of fame, he would have been a real poet of a superior kind. As it was, he was a smart satirist and an excellent translator. He was employed in the diplomatic service, and went on more than one confidential mission to the Peninsula at an important period, and was made a Privy Councillor.

The Right Honourable Hookham Frere has a sort of connection with India, through his kinsman the late Sir Bartle Frere, who has collected his writings in two volumes, to which he has contributed a pretty long memoir.

UNDER the head of "Death from Hydrophobia," we read in all the papers :—

"There is a saying, says a native Chinese paper, that if a man who has been bitten by a mad dog hears the sound of a gong within 100 days after he has been bitten he will die. In June last, at Yangchow, in Kiangsu Province, a certain man from the country met a mad dog in the city, and before he could jump out of the way the dog had caught hold of his bamboo-cloth jacket. The dog was driven away; and the man, not having been bitten, felt no anxiety about the *rencontre*. A few days after, however, there was a religious feast in the village and gongs, beating loudly, passed by his door. As soon as he heard the noise he suddenly went mad, and began jumping and rushing about, biting everybody whom he met. His people sent in haste for a doctor, but he died before the potion which the doctor at once set about boiling for him was ready to drink."

That need not be dismissed with the flippant scepticism of cheap philosophy. We can believe the story; there is no inherent improbability in it. There are well-authenticated accounts of the kind in every country, showing the deep influence of mental illusions. Many of the miracles in the East and the West are doubtless explicable on this principle. There are such things as overpowering beliefs. The Chinese story recalls one current in our society. It is said that, in making a thatch, a workman happened unconsciously to fasten a knot with a snake for a string. Somehow, the reptile had no opportunity for a poke of his fangs in the flesh of the thatcher, and, as he did not suspect anything, he had no cause for anxiety. Next year, the same man was called for the annual repairs. In removing the straw or grass covering, he discovered to his horror a dried-up serpent doing duty for fastening the covering grass on to the bamboo framework. He at once fell down dead. He had no opportunity of explaining how he came about by his death, and there was no *post mortem* held, nor a coroner called in to make the plain unintelligible. Doubtless, the sudden sense of the danger he had incurred by thus handling the deadly reptile the previous year, overpowered him. He collapsed and died under his sudden and extreme fear.

SIR SYAD AHMED KHAN is staying at Naini Tal, where Raja Ameer Hossein Khan of Oudh has gone on a visit to the Lieutenant-Governor. The Congressists are naturally exercised on the subject. The Raja has not yet declared himself. If he too goes the way of him of Bhinga, then farewell all hope of the Talookdars joining the Congress.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment are particularly recommended to persons who have to pass their lives in confined and crowded places; hundreds of thousands of our fellow creatures toil from morning until evening in factories and workshops to the detriment of their health, and the deterioration of the race. They suffer in consequence from indigestion, flatulence and want of appetite, and these complaints, if neglected, bring about nervousness and failure of the vital powers. Holloway's remedies can be used by such sufferers to their very great advantage, as they are mild in action, and certain in their effects. No one need therefore lose a day's work when using them, a matter of consequence to those whose daily bread depends on daily toil.

THE Calcutta Police Court house has been condemned. It is past repairs. It will be taken down and rebuilt on a new plan similar to the Calcutta Small Cause Court—one of the best buildings erected by the P. W. D.

THE High Court has been applied to, to declare whether the Agra Bank or Messrs. Lalchand Kanhya Ram are to bear the loss of Rs. 15,000, the amount of the cheque presented for encashment at the Bank and paid by the Bank to other than the presenter. It is well that the matter has gone to Court. Whoever be declared the victim, the Banks will be more careful in future.

MR. JUSTICE TREVELYAN is of opinion that the Burdwan case cannot terminate within the next twenty years, and had therefore no hesitation in granting extension of time to the 15th December to file the written statement on behalf of the minor Maharaja. Are Her Majesty's Courts too prepared to play into the hands of the irresistible Lala, like Collectors and Boards of Revenue?

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1888.

THE APPEAL OF THE STATUTORY CIVIL SERVICE.

WE have a tenderness for the Statutory Service. We think that Lord Lytton showed both statesmanship and liberality in what was a tolerable practical solution of a difficult and vexed problem. That, however, is not the opinion of the class from which our professional politicians and publicists are drawn. Unable to distinguish between the necessary and the accidental, our patriots easily played themselves into the hands of those who are interested in keeping the natives out as long as they can. Before the late Commission the native witnesses were the loudest in condemnation of the Statutory Service. The Press rang—the Platform thundered—to that tune. The Commission ratified the general condemnation. Ignoring repeated pledges, the ink of which was not yet dry, setting its face against promises embodied in Act of Parliament and in regulation thereunder, it sent forth the fiat for not only the annihilation of the Statutory Service, but also the degradation of the present members thereof. Such an injustice was unheard of in the annals of British legislation or administration. But then the Service was weakness itself. A new creation without prestige as yet, and for the benefit of natives only, it was just the dog to give a bad name and hang.

But the very worm turns upon its treader, how much more will the dog bark when injured! In this case it barks from the scaffold in appeal to the justice of Government and the sympathy of the world. The Statutory Service has been avenged. The Public Service Commission's recommendation to absorb it into the Provincial Service, has elicited a remarkable defence of the doomed Service, in the lately published May number of the *National Magazine*, from "A Statutory Civilian." Written with real power and downright sincerity, not to say red hot anger, it constitutes by itself a strong plea for the maintenance of the body to which the writer belongs. Surely, there is hope for a Service containing such superior men. The article is a vigorous argument which must give the Government pause in deciding upon the question. It is a well-delivered onslaught on the Service Commission, which cannot fail to tell on the public mind. At any rate, whatever fate may be in store for the Statutory body itself, there cannot be much doubt as to the brilliant future which the writer of such an article is destined to carve for himself; no State will neglect to utilise such ability. We have risen

from its perusal with the keenest patriotic pleasure. Penned in evident haste, and bearing necessarily some few marks of a prentice hand, it is nevertheless an article of which almost any man may be proud, and the Statutory Service must congratulate itself upon possessing a penman of such consummate talent and tact in its own ranks. The consciousness of such a possession almost makes up for that want of active public sympathy for the Service which the writer has so feelingly deplored.

The Statutory Civil Service is a part and parcel of the Covenanted Civil Service, and if any change is to be made in its status, it should be merged in the proposed Imperial rather than the Provincial Service. This is the writer's contention, and he has established the justice of his contention with the fullest success. This position of the Statutory Service cannot now be repudiated without a gross breach of faith. "In the hope," says the writer, "not only of an equality of prospects, but of an equality of status with the Covenanted Service, and of a clearly defined distinction from the Subordinate Judicial and Executive Services, have many men who would not otherwise have thought of entering any service at all, aspired to an appointment in the Statutory Civil Service, and secured it after passing the severest test possible,—a test beside which that for the Subordinate Judicial, not to speak of the Subordinate Executive Service, sinks into utter insignificance." The Service was expressly created for "young men of good family and social position,....to whom the offices open to them in the inferior ranks, or the Uncovenanted Service have not proved a sufficient inducement to come forward for employment." Here is a clear distinction made, in a formal Resolution of the Government of India, between the Statutory and the Uncovenanted Services. To relegate it now to a subordinate position would be as clear a breach of plighted faith as any can be.

The Public Service Commission bases its recommendation upon the alleged ground that the Statutory system has failed to secure properly qualified men. This expression of opinion on the Commission's part has called forth a burst of indignation from the writer and a noble rejoinder. He says:—

"Not only has the Public Service Commission done grave wrong to the Statutory Service by a deliberate ignoring of its past, but it has aggravated the offence by adding insult to injury. After shattering the status of that Service by its unreasonable merger in the Provincial, it has thrown out a pretty broad hint that this wholesale degradation was deserved by its inefficiency. Reputation is as dear to many in these degenerate days, as it was in Cassio's, and there may be found persons who inwardly shudder at the thought of belonging to a branded Service. The admitted existence of 'honorable exceptions' does not at all improve matters when the entire Service is insulted and degraded. A landed fraternity sheds upon an indifferent member a reflected lustre under which brass passes for gold; while the finger of scorn is lifted at real worth for the misfortune of its being linked with what a sweeping censure has pronounced to be buncombe. It is hardly fair to include good and bad in one all-involving remark of general condemnation. It is far worse to include them in one all-involving ruinous punishment. In olden days ten virtuous men might have saved a sinful city. Have things changed so far that the presence of a few black sheep dooms the whole flock to ruthless slaughter? It reminds us of the Emperor in the Arabian Nights whose anger roused by an unguarded word from the grand vizier could not be appeased except by a massacre of his whole family. The procedure which the Public Service Commission has adopted in dealing out punishment to incompetency in the Statutory Service is unique in the annals of penal history. It has recommended that the whole body is to be degraded first, and then individual cases may be considered on their own merits, when settling the position of each. So far as these individuals are concerned, therefore, they are to be presumed guilty until they can prove themselves otherwise. Why, the lowest criminal is presumed innocent until he is proved to be guilty. Not only that. The punishment is to come first and the defence afterwards. Truly, this is Jedwood justice, not British. This perversity appears all the more wonderful when it is considered that apart from any general principle of presumption about which the Commission might wrangle, there was a compulsory statutory presumption to which the Commission was bound to bow. Here is the rule. 'Any person admitted under these rules may, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in

'Council, be declared by the Local Government to be disqualified for further employment in the said (Statutory) Service.' We believe, that so long as any person is not so declared, he is to be considered qualified, assuming, of course, that the Local Government does its duty properly. We reserve the point whether a person who is finally admitted into the Service after his fitness has been tested by actual work during the period of probation, can be dealt with after the summary fashion of the rule. But the rule, at all events, furnishes a direct, simple and natural solution of the difficulty which the Commission might have pleaded as an excuse for its inability to recommend the absorption of the Statutory into the Imperial Service, and which it has solved in a round-about, unjust and unnatural way. The Government could, under the statutory powers reserved to it, weed the Service of its inefficiency, and then give it its proper and legitimate place. This would secure the required ability, save the Government from the reproach of trifling with vested rights, and other people from the pang of unmerited abuse, from the brand of vicarious punishment. But the Commission chose to put it the other way. Of course, it is the privilege of great men to be eccentric at convenient intervals; it is irrelevant to laugh if they sometimes put the cart before the horse."

Admitting, however, the justness of the Commission's conclusion as to the general inefficiency of the Statutory men, it must not be forgotten that this Service has been more sinned against than sinning, being made the victim of the injudicious selections made by the Government itself. The public, disgusted with the incompetency of these scions of aristocracy, did not remember that there were a different set of officers in the same body. A few wire-pullers passed the word, and the Surrender Nots and No Renders agitated on the platform and in the press, and soon there was but one opinion for the abolition of the Statutory Service. Under the circumstances, the Commission is hardly to be blamed. But, surely, it ought to have hit upon some device for carrying out the objects contemplated by Lord Lytton. The thing is the members themselves imbibed the popular prejudice against the Statutory men. It was bad enough for men like our essayist to be huddled into the same body with uneducated Rajalings. But it was something to feel that you were of the great Civil Service, and entitled to the advantages of that position. What a keen disappointment and humiliation for them now to be sent back to the same Uncovenanted from which they had escaped only yesterday, and after passing the severest tests imaginable. The injustice of the proposal admits of no question. The writer concludes his paper with an earnest appeal:—

"The members of the Statutory Civil Service appeal from the verdict of the Public Service Commission to a higher and, they doubt not, a juster tribunal. They smart under wrongs which, perhaps are not irrevocable, and they fervently believe that the Government will do them justice. They complain that the Commission has most unjustly attacked vested rights; that it has ignored their past, and the actually recognized character and status of their service; that contrary to all principles of justice and equity, it has proposed to give retrospective effect to a newly created disability. The Statutory Service is, in many respects, a most unfortunate body. Begotten in jealousy, and bred in error, it has lived a hard life, indeed, through envy and apathy. The people and the press have looked upon it with suspicion. It has evoked no interest and no sympathy in its struggle for existence. And now that it is about to die an inglorious death, the spectacle has not roused the feeblest sympathy. A handful of men must fight their own battle, without help, without encouragement, without the cheering consciousness of any silently-felt sympathy with their cause, without the inspiration of anticipated success. The Covenanted Service and the Uncovenanted have no occasion to be sorry at its fall; and the nation looks on with a perfectly stoic unconcern. Why, it has not the extent and the attitude to attract popular attention. Even the Public Service Commission, a truly great body which, on the whole, has done its arduous task with earnestness and zeal, has not scrupled to wrong it because it is small and weak. But can injustice plead a set-off? It is justice, and not favor, which the Statutory Service wants. It demands the redemption of promises, express and implied,—the fulfilment of expectations created by acts whose import is clear as the light of day. It resents the stigma and ignominy of insulting degradation. It shrinks from the thought of dishonored death. It has suffered much already. Is that a reason for its suffering more? Does one small transgression sanctify another great one? Is it not right, rather, to retrace the one small transgression, and restore the Service to its proper and intended place? If there have been mistakes in the application of the Statute, are they not capable of a more equitable rectification by the passing of a validating Statute? The history of Legislatures, both English and Indian, teem with instances of such validation of graver and more wide-reaching errors. Is that process of saving actual deeds, the repudiation of which leads not only to self-stultification but to positive

injury to others, to be abandoned on this one occasion because the occasion is not 'angust and proud?' Is justice to be measured by the magnitude of its receiver,—by extrinsic pomp and circumstance?

'The poor beetle you tread upon,
In corporal sufferance feels a pang
As great as when a giant dies.'

And this feeble cry, too weak to reach the ear of the authorities, too uninteresting to be effective if it does reach, rises out of a depth of wounded feelings, of crushed young ambition, of stunned and staggered hope, such as would have expressed itself in a truly magnificent howl if the Covenanted Service were thus throttled out of existence, or, what is far worse, reduced to the level of the much-abused Deputy."

Surely, we repeat, there is hope for a body possessing such superior men. What is the glory of the *khas* Civil Service, but the ability and achievements of a handful of its members! The majority were drones and nincompoops. Even under the competition since 1853, how many fools and madcaps, and rogues and *budmashes* have not drawn the fair name of the Service through the mire. The Public Service Commission has here an opponent by no means unworthy of its steel. May he live to make his mark! He is of the stuff which ought to redeem the Statutory in the same way that a few great names redeemed the Covenanted Service from the disgrace of its Beameses, Metcalfes, Smiths, the D'Oyleys, Beadons, Moseleys, the Buckles, Levinges, Kirkwoods, indeed, the bulk of this close organized aristocratic Service.

INDORE AFFAIRS.

Aug. 21.—The new minister at Indore has proved a great failure. He is very lazy, and most of the important work that demands his attention is lying undone. The Maharaja himself repents the selection; but he does not shove him out of office, for fear lest the public should again criticize the step unfavourably. Consequently, the lucky minister draws his fat pay and does literally nothing. Since Raghonath Rao's departure, the Council has not been holding its sittings regularly. With one breath the minister fixes dates for the sittings, and with another, cancels them. No proper hearing is given to appeals preferred to the Council against the decisions of the Lower Courts, with the result that the latter receive no check in the mal-administration of justice. The minister's present policy seems to be this: to please the Maharaja and his surroundings at the sacrifice of public interest. All the activity and promptitude in the discharge of State business in several departments perceptible in the late *regime*, appear to have been dead and gone. Even letters addressed to him by the Politicals remain unanswered until more than one reminder is sent.

His Highness has reduced the Chief Justice's pay to Rs. 700, presumably with a view to make the present incumbent resign the office he holds. The way in which it is done is rather queer. One day the minister calls the Chief Justice (Lala Baijnath) up to inform him that the Maharaja values his services so much that he is pleased to extend his term to a further period of six months from October next. Puffed up with this valuation, the Chief Justice goes straight to Court, where a letter from the Private Secretary awaits him. Thinking the letter conveys news of his promotion, he opens it and, to his great mortification, finds that his salary has been reduced. Mind you he gets this letter in August and the Maharaja's order of reduction is dated sometime in June. Poor Chief Justice! He was dumb-founded. He wrote a long letter to the minister stating his own terms to remain in office, some of which were that the period of extension must be two years; that he be paid his present salary; that more powers be given him to exercise over the subordinate Courts; that he must be consulted in making appointments in the Judicial Department, &c. And he asked the minister to let him know the Maharaja's wishes in the matter within a certain time. The *certain time* came, but he was not favored with any reply. He then referred the matter to the Agent, Governor-General, who advised him to consider himself free from service if His Highness did not definitely settle as to whether the Chief Justice would be kept in service on his own terms. Another letter was written to the minister who did not condescend to reply to it at all. At last he wrote direct to the Maharaja, who directed him to see him personally. The Chief Justice did so, but the interview did not decide the question. This is one of the many instances which show how things are managed here.

The Chief Justice is, I am afraid, not the soul of honour, or he is exhibiting a curious dunderheadedness. It is no secret that His Highness does not like him since his return from England, and the re-

duction in his pay appears to be meant to induce him to resign. But he has not the sense to understand this, or will not take the hint.

Aug. 28.—From my telegram you may have seen that Maharaja Holkar extends the tenure of Lala Baijnath's office to a further period of one year, on his present pay, *i. e.*, Rs. 933 per mensem, on condition that he should present Nazars to His Highness twice a year, and that appeals against his decisions will in future be heard by the Maharaja himself. My information is that Lal Baijnath will accept the terms and remain here watching for better opportunities. There is a clique of Brahmans opposed to the Lala's retention in office. They have directed their energies to see him out. For the present, they have succeeded in alienating His Highness from him; but His Highness is afraid to take the last step suggested to him by the clique. The other day His Highness sent for Lala Baijnath and informed him that he had sanctioned the extension *only* because he (Lala) had not brought his influence with the Politicals to bear upon the Maharaja for the extension.

Raja Ram and Damodar (State servants) are now on their trial, on a charge of having tortured the witnesses in Khema Naique's case and forced them to withdraw their statements made before the committing Magistrate. Resaldar Major Isri Prasad, of the Central India Horse, is in charge of the prosecution. You know Isri Prasad. He was sent by Sir Lepel Griffin in search of Tantia Bheel about two years ago, with arms, men and magisterial powers. But Sir Lepel is not the man to stand any sort of humbug; so Isri Prasad was recalled after a time, as being too old to catch Tantia. Smarting under the humiliation of a recall, he is said to have hit upon a novel idea of making up a case, against Khema Naique, of harbouring Tantia in his village, with the object of showing to the authorities and notably Sir Lepel, that his failure to apprehend Tantia was mainly due to the State officials giving their support to the dacoit. In Khema's case, the witnesses for the prosecution were his discharged servants and others of no character at all. It appears some of the discharged servants are in the service of Isri Prasad to give evidence against Raja Ram too. In the opinion of lawyers, who watched the progress of Khema's case, if he had been tried by British officials with the same materials, he would have been legally acquitted. But matters are managed very mysteriously in Indore. An impression has taken a strong hold of the public mind that the Judges at Indore give little fair-play to the prisoners before them in these cases, but that with a view to please the Politicals they sit in judgment with a biased mind. Now in the present case of Raja Ram, it appears that Khema Naique, who is undergoing his term of imprisonment in the city Jail and who has appealed against the Saddar Court's judgment, is taken one day before Isri Prasad from the Jail, with the result that his chains are removed and that he comes before the Court holding inquiry in Raja Ram's case, as a witness for the prosecution and gives evidence against Raja Ram, confessing his own guilt himself. Strange world this! But here the matter seems not to end. The prosecution are now trying to see Raja Ram locked up during his trial and not to let him off on bail. At first they moved the Durbar to place Raja Ram on his trial for torturing witnesses, &c. in Khema's case. The Durbar appoints a special Magistrate to hold the inquiry in that question alone. During the enquiry the prosecution move the Magistrate not to accept bail from Raja Ram; but the offence being bailable the motion was rejected. Immediately after they produced Khema Naique from jail as a witness to say that Raja Ram was also harbouring Tantia Bheel. Do you know why? The offence of harbouring a proclaimed dacoit is a non-bailable one. You are perhaps well aware that in backward countries like Central India, when a State official is once kept under arrest, nobody comes forward to say anything in his favour, but hundreds of people can be found to testify to something against him. This state of affairs the prosecution are going to avail themselves of. And the wonder is that they receive encouragement from the Court here. When a Magistrate is specially appointed to hold an inquiry on a certain charge specified and detailed in the appointment order, can he entertain other charges? Common sense dictates, he cannot, and yet here they are entertained.

Again, to give you an idea of the so-called fairplay given to the prisoner, I must not omit to mention that the learned Magistrate specially appointed to hold the inquiry against Raja Ram, starts it with an examination of the accused. Is not this extraordinary? A accuses B, instead of calling upon A to prove the accusation, B is called upon to explain it! There is no exaggeration in this.

AN INDOORMAN.

A MODEL OFFICIAL CHAIRMAN.

ANOTHER and yet another! Verily, our Heaven-born are of the earth earthy! Such is the impression irresistibly forced upon the disinterested public from the successive exposures of incompetent and unfaithful servants of the State taking place in different parts of the Empire. One would suppose that at such a time our officials would take care not to give unnecessary offence. But this is clearly beyond many of them. Impressed with inordinate notions of privilege, supported as they are by their fellows and spoiled as they have been by the favour of superiors, they seem unable to realize their position as mere servants of the public or their obligations to law and justice.

Mr. G. M. Currie, Magistrate-Chairman of Howrah, is not unknown to fame. Having achieved an unenviable notoriety at Cuttack, in connection with the estates of the Dowager Maharani of Burdwan, and having incurred the severest strictures of the High Court, Mr. Currie was transferred to Howrah, in the belief that there, under the very nose of the Government, his vagaries and lawlessness would receive some check. Any other man acting as Mr. Currie did at Cuttack, would never have been let off so easily, but then Mr. Currie is a nephew of Sir Rivers Thompson, and it was Sir Rivers Thompson who had the punishing of his nephew in his own hands.

Without referring to the numerous instances of Municipal and Magisterial vagaries of which Mr. Currie has been guilty since coming to Howrah, we will take up his conduct with reference to a civil suit pending against him as Municipal Chairman in the Munsiff's Court at Howrah. A medical practitioner of Howrah having erected a long brick wall by the side of a lane, he was served with a notice requiring him to remove the wall on the alleged ground of its having been an encroachment on the public lane. Baboo Pramathanath Dass, L.M.S., (for that is the name of the gentleman), addressed the Chairman, by way of answer to the notice, that the wall stood on his own land and was no encroachment on any public lane. Without enquiry of any kind, and without assigning a single reason, the Chairman's order on this objection was, "rejected." Mr. Currie is a staunch believer in the wisdom of Sir William Mansfield's advice to his friend on the eve of the latter's setting out for a Colonial Judgeship,—*Give your judgments but not your reasons*. Hundreds of petitions are daily disposed of at Howrah with the sapient and laconic order—"rejected," and Mr. Currie could not be expected to make an exception in favor of a mere son of Æsculapius. The next step adopted by Mr. Currie was to serve upon Baboo Dass a peremptory notice stating that if the wall were not pulled down within forty-eight hours, the Municipality would do it for him and at his cost. Baboo Dass, on receipt of this peremptory order, went to the Civil Court for a declaration that the wall was not an encroachment and for a temporary injunction restraining the Municipal Chairman from pulling it down before the decision of the case. The Court of first instance granted the injunction, notwithstanding the affidavit made by a Municipal Overseer and an answer filed by the Vice-Chairman disclaiming all intention of pulling down the wall. This disclaimer, in the face of the forty-eight hours' notice previously served on the Plaintiff, was rated by the Munsiff at its worth. Finding that the Munsiff granted a temporary injunction, the Chairman appealed to the District Judge of Hooghly. The case was argued before the latter *ex parte*. The forty-eight hours' notice, filed before the Munsiff by the Plaintiff and forming part of the record, had, when the District Judge tried the case, strangely disappeared from the Record. There was nobody to direct the Judge's attention to it. Believing in the protestations of the Chairman that the Municipality had no intention of pulling down the wall, protestations that were reiterated through the mouth of their pleader, the District Judge cancelled the injunction, adding that if at any time the Municipality would really contemplate the destruction of the wall, the Court of first instance could, on application by the Plaintiff, restrain it by a timely order. The victory elated Mr. Currie, and his hands being perfectly free, the very next day to that on which the Judge had, on these grounds, cancelled the injunction, Mr. Currie sent about a hundred people to the spot with instructions to pull down the wall. In five minutes' time the whole wall, measuring about 95 feet, was pulled down with lusty cheers, from the men employed in the work, to the greatness and glory of G. M. Currie, Esq., C. S., Magistrate of Howrah and Chairman of the Howrah Municipality.

It is impossible to speak of this transaction calmly. It makes one's blood boil to contemplate the example of lawlessness and meanness set to the population of a whole town by its executive head. Is the

District Judge actually so powerless after having allowed himself to be effectually bamboozled by the false disclaimer of the Municipal authorities? Can no prosecution for perjury lie? Can no case for contempt of court be made out? Is it possible that Mr. Currie does not know how honest men would characterise the transaction, even if a prosecution for perjury or contempt of court fail on any technical plea? We say that the sense of security men like Mr. Currie are allowed to feel, in consequence of their covenanted dignities, is the bane of the British administration in India. A Civilian is above punishment. In vain is a Beames disgraced or a Kirkwood forced to retire, if acts like these are allowed to pass unnoticed. There is no Sir Rivers Thompson now to protect his sister's son. But is the relationship so strong that its influence will still be felt? Is it too much to expect that Sir Steuart Bayley will call for the papers of the case? Meanwhile, we advise Baboo Pramatha Nath to pursue every remedy that the case admits of.

THE LATE FRENCH OFFICIAL TOURS.

THE remark that they order the matter better in France, has passed into a proverb in England. Official Tours are so much the fashion in India, and now that even at height of the season of wet and dirt, the restless foot of the Anglo-Saxon is on the move, it may not be energy thrown away to dwell for a moment on the latest doings of the French in that line. Both the Presidents—of the Republic and of the Council—had been out. M. Carnot went to the South-East frontiers. His progress lay through places rich in historic associations, until he reached the end of his journey—that old Province acquired by Philip of Valois, which was the Wales of the French Crown as giving title to the Heir-apparent of the monarchy.

After his return to Paris from his triumphal tour in Dauphiné, M. Carnot, the President of the French Republic, again left the capital for Fontainebleau, where he intends to spend a few weeks.

Fontainebleau is a small snug town, 37 miles distant from Paris. It contains a palace which is one of the largest and most sumptuous royal residences of France. The palace of Fontainebleau, which was the favourite residence of Napoleon I, is replete with historic reminiscences. It was here that some of the French Kings first saw the light. Charles V of Germany was entertained here with becoming *délat*. Christina, the Swedish Queen, after abdicating her throne, passed several years in this palace before taking up her final residence in Rome. It was here that Peter the Great, the real founder of Russian greatness, was fêted by the French nation with a pomp and a magnificence befitting the greatness of the guest and the wealth of the host. This palace was twice the residence of a Pope. It was in this palace that the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes was signed, and the sentence of divorce was pronounced against Josephine. It was here that in 1848 the Prince President accommodated the ladies whom he had invited to witness his grand hunting. It was here that Mlle. de Montijo, who afterwards became Empress of the French, occupied with her mother a modest apartment.

The principal entrance to the palace is in the Court of White Horse (*Court de Cheval Blanc*), which is also called Court of Adeaux. It was in this court that in 1814 Napoleon I bade his last farewell to the soldiers of his Old Guard, who shed many a bitter tear on that sad occasion.

The Presidential family live on the first floor, the Chief of the State occupying the room where formerly slept M. Filon, the preceptor of the Prince Imperial. The personal staff of the President and the domestics are housed on the third and fourth flats. The only place reserved for the promenade of the President and family is the English Garden, the walls of which surround the basin of Carpes. The terrace and the forest remain as free as before to the public.

Here the President of the Republic has for his neighbour the conservator of the Town Library, M. T. T. Weiss, one of the most eminent of living French publicists. He was Under-Secretary of State at the end of the Empire, Councillor of State under President Thiers, Director of Foreign Affairs in the Gambetta ministry. After the strife and struggle of many long years, he has now come to seek at Fontainebleau a literary refuge in his decline.

Before going to enjoy repose in the woods of Fontainebleau, M. Carnot opened in the *Palais de l'Industrie* the Exhibition of Salvage and Hygiene, of which the director is M. Nirole, who is in France what M. Jules Joubert is in the East and Australia, having, within the last 20 years, organized more than 10 Exhibitions. The great attrac-

tion of the Exhibition of Salvage is a grand pool, in which the life-boats performed evolutions with the greatest facility. The attention of the visitors is also arrested by the ambulance of Dr. Nachtel and the very faithful reconstitution of an Apothecary's shop of the 17th century, together with the tools and instruments which M. Eiffel constructed for the sluices for the Panama Canal.

The so to speak Subordinate President proceeded not so far, yet he went to a famous national shrine and on a picturesque mission. He went to the doubly memorable site, where, eleven hundred years ago, Charles Martel saved Europe from being Mahomedan, by hurling back the towering advancing wave of Arab Conquest, and where only in 1870 the Government of the National Defence held its headquarters, when Paris was shut up by the German horde. Such is Tours, where Mr. Floquet presided at an interesting ceremony. It was that of consecrating the monument raised to the memory of the illustrious Meusnier, the academician and general of infantry, collaborateur and friend of Lavoisier, the rival of Monge (the great mathematician and assistant of M. Carnot, the "orgainser of victory") and defender of the citadel of Cassel, where he met with his death in 1793, after a heroic defence. The authorities of Tours proceeded at the head of the whole garrison in arms to the monument, the pedestal of which contains the remains of the heroes of the Revolution, recently discovered by the Mayor of the town. General Villain, the commandant of the place, presented the officers of the 9th corps to the President of the Council, who presided over the ceremony, saying that they are prepared for all eventualities. The Archbishop of Tours spoke of the good intentions of the clergy towards the Republic. M. Floquet discoursed about the liberty of conscience, and fraternity. He paid graceful tributes to Meusnier, the Pandit of war.

HINDU MARRIAGE EXPENSES.

I propose to speak a few words on our marriage expenses—a question which presses itself more and more every day.

The expense to which the father of the bride is put, means simply ruination to him. Apart from the fact that if the bridegroom elect, is a Koolin, the bride's father has to pay dearly for the privilege and honor of having secured such an eligible husband for his daughter and the fact that he has to pay more dearly still, if the "elect" be a graduate of the University and a Koolin, the usual expenditure that has to be incurred by the bride's father at our marriages, is much too exorbitant and calls for reform. The classes most affected by this pernicious system are Brahmans (Raree class) Kaystos and Boyddos, but gradually all classes are beginning to follow the fashion and are being engulfed in the sea of ruin.

If the father of any of the above mentioned classes have a number of daughters and no sons, imagine his fate under our present marriage customs—my remarks are confined to the class of society which form the majority. This class has of course limited means, and it does not require very much to drain this class, and only one or two marriages of daughters of this class generally suffice to reduce the fond parent to absolute beggary. I have great respect for Koolins who are supposed to have nine virtues as prescribed by Bullal, but I would certainly inveigh against a system which is the cause of so much misery and distress among the community.

I would, an abler pen than mine, take up this case and advocate the bringing of the system within reasonable limits.

Marriage which is a blessed and a happy state, should be regarded with happy, joyous and kindly feelings, but under the existing state of things, it can only be looked at with fear and trembling.

The remedy of this social evil lies not in legislation by the rulers of the country, as is necessary in the case of other evils, troubles, and annoyances which are experienced by the public at large. I do not look for any special enactment of Government for the abolition of the objectionable practice. I appeal to my own countrymen to stamp out the evil. Let them frame certain social rules on the subject and let such rules be unflinchingly observed. Let it be laid down by our social rulers, that Koolin sons, or such as have taken University degrees &c., are not to look forward to small fortunes from their wives, in the shape of gold and silver and costly and precious apparel, but that they should think themselves sufficiently fortunate in having good, useful, modest, virtuous wives, who will make their homes happy and comfortable, which is the greatest fortune of all. Let the giving of marriage presents be made entirely optional, instead of, as at present, almost compulsory, and I would even go so far as to say let the present state of things be reversed if anything, and let it be required of bridegrooms (for they can earn and afford the expense,) to give presents, within their means, to their brides. This even need not be made compulsory but the present custom certainly needs very great alteration, if not doing away

with altogether. And now that I have broached the subject, Mr. Editor, and spoken on it to the best of my poor abilities, I trust you will ventilate the matter thoroughly and be the means of bringing about a complete reformation.
Jamalpoore.

NOTES & QUERIES.

BIDYAPATI.

With reference to the query regarding Bidyapati (R. & R. Aug. 18. p. 393.) I beg to say that there is very little agreement respecting the place of Bidyapati's birth. Four hamlets, if not seven cities, lay claim to the honor of being his birth place. Some persons are for identifying the place of his birth with Chhatna in Bancoora; others hold that he first saw the light at Bhursoot in Jessore in Sak 1355 and died at Navadvipa in 1403, and that his name was Basanta Roy, Bidyapati being only a title conferred by Raja Siv Sinha, in recognition of his merit; while a third party suppose him to have been a native of Birbhum. I have very carefully considered and compared the rival claims of the different places and am distinctly of opinion that the people of Mithila—the modern Tirhoot—have made out the strongest case. They have a very big book, nearly 560 years old, entitled the *Punji*, containing the pedigree of the Kings and Brahmans of Mithila, in which the following genealogical table is to be found:—

Dharmaditya
|
Debaditya
|
Dhariswar
|
Joydutta
|
Ganapati
|
Bidyapati

For once the poet was wrong when he sang

It so falls out

That what we have we prize not to the worth,

Whiles we enjoy it,

it being an established fact that Bidyapati stood very high in the estimation of the people and rose to great power at the court of Raja Siva Sinha who—O strange return!—was made a cuckold of by him. We frequently come across the names of the Raja as well as of the false fair one—Rani Luchmee (with whom our poet carried on an intrigue, probably with the connivance of the husband) in Bidyapati's songs. The descendants of the Raja still live at Sugaona, though poverty has marked them for her own. According to a tradition, which is not all a tradition, Siva Sinha was, on one occasion, thrown into prison by the Emperor of Delhi and was, through the intercession of the sweet Bard of Mithila, set at liberty. The Emperor, it is said, was so charmed by the poetical effusions of our poet that he made him a free gift of a village called Bispi. The descendants of Bidyapati still live there and have in their possession the *Sanad* of the Padsa which they have carefully preserved as a valuable heirloom.

It is difficult to ascertain the exact dates of Bidyapati's birth and death. That he belonged to the preChaitanyite period is admitted on all hands, and is evident from the following couplet of the Chaitanya Charitāmrita:—

Chandi Dās, Vidyāpati, Rāyer Nātak, Gīti, karnāmrita Srf Gīt Govinda,

Swarup, Rāmānanda sanc, Mahāprabhu rātri dinc, gāya shunc param ānanda.

Raja Siva Sinha confirmed the imperial gift to Bidyapati by a document dated Sak 1323. The bard must have made his mark at the time the royal favor was shewn to him, and one will be justified in presuming that he was between 20 and 25 years old at the time, that is, he was born between Sak 1298 and 1303. The descendants of Bidyapati have preserved a manuscript copy of *S'riāmad Bhagabat* written on palm leaves by him in Sak 1379. I further learn from Bidyapati's *Durgā Bhakti Tarangini*, that it was composed during the reign of Raja Nara Sinha Deb—which commenced in Sak 1395, *Punji*, of course, being my authority. From these facts, it follows our poet must have died a grand old man.

ECHO FROM THE HERMITAGE OF ADWYAITA ACHARYYA.

MAHOMET'S COFFIN.

"It is said that Mahomet's Coffin, in the Hadgira of Medina, is suspended in mid-air without any support. Many explanations have been given of this phenomenon, the one most generally received being that the coffin is of iron, placed midway between two magnets. Burckhardt visited the sacred enclosure, and found the ingenuity of science useless in this case, as the coffin is not suspended at all."—Brewer.

Will any of your numerous readers enlighten me as to how the impression regarding the suspension of Mahomet's coffin originated?
CURIOSITY.

MONGHYR.

Jamalpoore, Aug. 28.

We had cyclonish weather here for sixty hours right through, that is, from the evening of Friday the 24th, to the morning of Monday the 27th, with incessant rain accompanied by high wind, felling several mud walls and trees. Fortunately for the existing hills commonly known to be parts of the Vindian chain, which run from north to south serving as buffer for the town to the storm, it could not take a serious turn, as anticipated.

The river has risen unusually high this year, the water having approached the main road and the railway station compound, causing

several trees &c., to be washed away. The rain and wind have materially affected the local crop "Bhutta."

Colonel Ramsay, District Superintendent of Police, Monghyr, having availed himself of his leave, Baboo Gopaul Hurry Mullick has taken over charge—the first instance of a native posted to the sudder district of Monghyr in executive charge.

The climate of the place has all of a sudden assumed an unfavorable aspect. The fell disease cholera has made its appearance both in European and native quarters of the town, about half a dozen cases proving fatal. What is the Municipality about? The Sanitary Commissioner had better keep a sharp look out, for the better sanitation of the town in the present crisis.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,

on Thursday the 6th September 1888, at 3 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To appoint a Committee for revising the Draft Annual Report for the year 1887-88.
2. The Chairman to lay upon the table Report of the License Committee and the orders of the Town Council thereon for confirmation.
3. The Chairman to lay upon the table statement of receipts and disbursement of the Calcutta Police for the year 1887-88.
4. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 21st July, 4th and 18th August 1888.
5. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at a meeting held on the 9th August 1888.
6. To confirm the following Resolutions passed by the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at a meeting held on the 7th August 1888.
 - (a). To pass orders under Section 281 in respect of
 - No. 2 Bonomally Sircar's Street Bustee and Bustee north and south of Manick Bose's Ghat Street.
7. To confirm generally the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at meetings held on the 7th, 14th, 15th and 20th August 1888.
8. The Chairman to lay upon the table vital statistics for the months of June and July last.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

27th August 1888.

EMERALD THEATRE

BEADON STREET.

Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.

Saturday—the 1st September, 1888—
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Poet KALIDAS,

KUMAR SAMBHAJ.

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M. L. SUR, Asst. Manager.

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Rupees two thousand and five hundred to accompany tender as earnest money.

Copies of specification and forms of tender and further particulars may be obtained on application in the Water Works Department of the Engineer's office, where also the plan may be seen and copies thereof taken.

Covers to be superscribed "Tender for Reservoir," and are to be addressed to the Vice-Chairman, who will receive them up to noon of Monday the 3rd September next, at which time the tenders will be opened by the Vice-Chairman in the presence of those tenderers who may wish to be present.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

No more Operations!

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,*Formerly Minister to the late***NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,***(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)**Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.***Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"**

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sabibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "We serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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The Despatch Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily on arrival of the Mails from Calcutta, and proceed to Debrooghur, stopping at all intermediate stations and Mookhs.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1888.

No. 340

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE LARK AND THE ROOK—A FABLE.

"Lo! hear the gentle lark!"—SHAKSPEARE.

ONCE on a time—no matter where—
A lark took such a fancy to the air,
That though he often gaz'd beneath,
Watching the breezy down, or heath,
Yet very, very seldom he was found
To perch upon the ground.

Hour after hour,
Through ev'ry change of weather hard or soft,
Through sun and shade, and wind and show'r,
Still fluttering aloft;
In silence now, and now in song,
Up, up in cloudland all day long,
On weary wing, yet with unceasing flight,
Like to those Birds of Paradise, so rare,
Fabled to live, and love, and feed in air,
But never to alight.

It caus'd of course, much speculation
Among the feather'd generation;
Who tried to guess the riddle that was in it—
The robin puzzled at it, and the wren,
The swallows, cock and hen,
The wagtail, and the linnet,
The yellowhammer, and the finch as well—
The sparrow ask'd the tit, who could n't tell,
The jay, the pie—but all were in the dark,
Till out of patience with the common doubt,
The rook at last resolv'd to worm it out,
And thus accosted the mysterious lark:—

"Friend, prithee, tell me why
You keep this constant hovering so high,
As if you had some castle in the air,
That you are always poising there,
A speck against the sky—
Neglectful of each old familiar feature
Of earth that nurs'd you in your callow state—
You think you're only soaring at heaven's gate,
Whereas you're flying in the face of Nature!"

"Friend," said the lark, with melancholy tone,
And in each little eye a dewdrop shone,
"No creature of my kind was ever fonder
Of that dear spot of earth
Which gave it birth—
And I was nestled in the furrow yonder!
Sweet is the twinkle of the dewy heath,
And sweet that thymy down I watch beneath,

Saluted often with a loving sonnet;
But men, vile men have spread so thick a scurf
Of dirt and infamy about the turf,
I do not like to settle on it!"

MORAL.

Alas! how nobles of another race
Appointed to the bright and lofty way,
Too willingly descend to haunt a place
Polluted by the deeds of Birds of Prey!

FRIENDS.

"Friend after friend departs,
Who has not lost a friend?
There is no union here of hearts,
That knows not here an end."

"FRIEND after friend departs,"—
And oft to those, whom most we cherish here,
Death sends his *swiftest* darts,
And calls them *soonest* to a brighter sphere,

Where *all* are friends—*true* friends,
Not like to those we often meet with here,
Whose mis-named friendship ends
When poverty and sorrow first appear.

Mourn not to lose *such* friends!
For still remain those who are friends indeed,
Whom God in mercy sends,
To be the *dearest* in our hour of need.

"Who has not lost a friend?"
If any such there be, most happy they,
On whom *such* joys descend
As friendships, unimpaired by time's decay.

But one day soon will prove
All earthly friendships but a broken reed:
When we must seek *above*
A friend to help in our last time of need.

Then trust *His* mighty arm,
And humbly at His gracious footstool bend;
For nought thy soul can harm,
While thou canst call the King of kings thy friend.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Self Help.—Prior to the discovery of these remedies an easy, ready, and reliable remedy for outward disfigurements and inward complications was, practically speaking, unknown. No one need now be at a loss if they should unfortunately suffer from piles, ulcers, sores, tumours, boils, bruises, sprains, &c. Enveloping Holloway's medicines are very intelligible printed directions for using them, which should be attentively studied and immediately followed by all who resort to his treatment. Sooner or later the sufferer will assuredly triumph over the worst diseases. This searching Ointment disperses all those malignant humours which aggravate diseases of the skin, prevent the cicatrization of ulcers, and excite inflammatory tendencies in the system.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE mail day changes from week after next at Bombay from Tuesday to Friday and at Calcutta from Saturday to Tuesday. Here, to-day is the last Saturday mail day, the next mail being on Tuesday the 18th, that is, there will be no out-going mail next week.

THE High Court, Original Side, will be closed for the annual vacation (including the Mohorum festival, the Mahalaya, Durga, Luckhmi and Kali Pujahs, and the Bhratriditia, Juggutdhatri, and Kartic Pujahs) on and from Monday, the 10th September to Thursday, the 15th November, 1888, both days inclusive, and will resume its sittings on Friday, the 16th November, 1888. The Insolvent Court will sit on Monday, the 1st October, 1888. The Offices of the Court, Original Side, will be closed for general business from Monday, the 17th September to Wednesday, the 7th of November, both days inclusive, on account of the Mohorum festival and the Mahalaya, Durga, Luckhmi, Kali, and Bhratriditia Pujahs, and from Monday, the 12th November to Thursday, the 15th November, on account of the Juggutdhatri and the Kartic Pujahs. One Judge will remain in town for urgent business, and arrangements will be made for the attendance of such superior or subordinate officers, as shall be required for the disposal of urgent business. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Trevelyan will sit as Vacation Judge to take Chamber applications at 10-30 A. M., and Court applications at 11 A. M., on Tuesday, the 11th, and Thursday, the 13th September instant. His Lordship will preside as Commissioner for the relief of Insolvent Debtors on Monday, the 1st October, 1888. In case of special urgency, appointments can be made through the following officers:—Mr. W. R. Fink, 4, Strand Road, from 10th September to 2nd October, Babu Grish Chunder Bannerji, Bhowanipore, Chuckerbere Road, South, No. 31, from 3rd to 20th October, Mr. J. Heckle, High Court, from 21st October to 15th November.

THE heat during the late summer was excessive throughout the land generally. In the Punjab, which habitually suffers from severity of weather both in summer and winter, and oftentimes from alternations between heat and cold in the same season, and even within the twenty four hours, the weather was unusually sharp. At Patiala, the festivities on the occasion of the royal marriage had to be postponed in consequence. They have been fixed for the 17th November, in view of the signs of the heavenly powers and in deference to the convenience of the principal planet of the earth and attendant British stars of the first magnitude.

The Abbottabad District was last week visited by severe shocks of earthquake, destroying many houses in the country around the chief town and burying to death several men and women and children.

CAWNPORE has suffered terribly from the recent rains. More than two hundred men have been killed by the falling of houses chiefly. Huts have been made a clean sweep of, over 6,000 being reported destroyed.

A DOZEN villages in the District of Nuddea are completely under water from the inundation of the Mathabhanga, viz., Hurodhan, Goneshpore, Rabunbuth, Gurpara, Sirkarpore, Bedyanundpore, Napara, Anundidham, Tarapore, Gazipore Musandura, Sundipore and Goswainpore.

THE Bombay Congressist Mahomedans, though weak in number, are strong in intelligence and energy. They have not let the grass grow under their feet after their late discomfiture. At a second meeting, presided over by Mr. Budrudeen Tyabji, they have got the Anjuman-i-Islam to resolve to lend the weight of their support to the National Congress to be held at Allahabad. It does not signify much. The Congress might always be sure of the attendance of Mr. Tyabji and his following of Anglicised Mahomedans, but this stealing a march over the community, is likely to bring on a crisis in the life of the Anjuman as a truly representative body.

THE Punjab discovers its usual spirit of intolerance. The local *Anjuman-i-Islamia*, presided over by Nawab Abdul Majid Khan, C.S.I., has recorded the following resolutions:—

"That the *Anjuman-i-Islamia*, as a united body, should become a member of the Indian Patriotic Association. (2.) That the aims of the

National Congress being diametrically opposite to those of the *Anjuman-i-Islamia*, any one favouring the cause of the Congress will be considered no longer fit to continue as a member of the aforesaid *Anjuman*."

FOLLOWING in the wake of the *Pioneer* and the *Statesman*, the *Pall Mall Gazette* has come down with a fierce attack on Sir John Gorst. The Under-Secretary is directly charged with being indirectly concerned with the Hyderabad Deccan Company, through the intervention of his friend, the notorious Mr. Tom Palmer, of Hyderabad.

It is announced that the Hon'ble H. Hay, son of the Earl of Erroll, and formerly of the Scots Guards, has been appointed a Superintendent of Police in Burma.

SIR ROPER LETHBRIDGE has given notice for calling the attention of the House of Commons, in November, to the report of Sir Henry James's Select Committee, on the affairs of the Deccan Mining Company.

FROM a Simla telegram to the *Statesman*, it would seem that the question of the Simla allowances, which has been before the Viceroy, has been decided, and that future incumbents shall draw only ordinary travelling and daily allowances, sanctioned by the Financial Codes.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces will come down from his Hills, after the middle of next month. Leaving Nynsee Tal on the 18th October, he will reach Lucknow on the 1st November.

THE following, started by the *Civil and Military Gazette*, is going the round:—

"By gar! it's a boy—*un garson*, a boy!" exclaimed Dr. Caius; and so said one Gurmukh Singh, of Jhelum, some time ago, under the following circumstances:—Gurmukh Singh, who thought he should wed, went to Sundar Singh of Rawalpindi and said: 'Give me your daughter in marriage, and I will pay you five hundred rupees for her.' Now, Sundar Singh had no daughter at all, but he liked five hundred rupees; and so he smoked awhile in order to consider how he could get over the difficulty of obtaining the money and yet give no daughter. After a short time he replied to his friend who desired an alliance with his family: 'Very good—I will give you my daughter for the money Gurmukh Singh.' So the marriage day was fixed and great preparations were made, and the bridegroom arrived at the village, and there was much rejoicing. Blind with his desire for the five hundred, Sundar Singh called to him his son, aged ten, and dressed him up as a girl with the noserings and earrings and spangled skirt of womankind; and on the marriage ceremony being completed, delivered him over to Gurmukh Singh with his paternal blessings. The bride was then taken to the house of Gurmukh Singh and received into the family. But soon the fraud was discovered; and swift return was made to Rawalpindi in order to upbraid Sundar Singh, and demand return of the purchase-money. Sundar Singh, who had in the meantime stayed quietly at home and had not fled with the five hundred after selling all of his immoveable property as he should have done, allowed that there was ground for dissatisfaction, and he surrendered the money, gotten by fraud, and received back his son, aged ten. Satisfied with the return of the money Gurmukh Singh did nothing more, beyond abusing Sundar Singh to an extent equivalent to the shame to which he had been put. And so the matter ended."

Sundar is Sundar and no mistake! He is an honest Oriental to the backbone in his capacity for taking things coolly, including the explosion of his own game of practical joking, for which he seems to have a decided and enormous *penchant*! In fact, we have a shrewd suspicion that our contemporary has been another Sundar victim of it, in being beguiled into swallowing the whole hog, from tusk to tail, as offered, without dressing.

MR. KUNJEN MENON'S appeal to the High Court comes off next Wednesday.

THE Byculla Club at Bombay entertains Lord Dufferin on the 16th December.

It is whispered that richer gold mines than Californian have been discovered on the shores of Lake Superior.

THE Oxus has been bridged at Kerki—the Russian Southern post in the direction of Kham-i-ab.

PRINCESS SOPHIE, sister of the Emperor William, is betrothed to the Crown Prince of Germany.

IN his reply to the address of the Dacca Municipality, the Lieutenant-Governor thus spoke of the extended municipal franchise :—

"You allude with satisfaction to my proposal to give a larger scope to the elective element and to restrict the number of nominations—I wish to take this opportunity of letting you know how this experiment stands. It was first submitted to the public for criticism—some people considered that the appointment of two Government officials, a Magistrate and a Medical officer would swamp the independence of the committees, others (and among these were many experienced officials and native gentlemen) thought that by resuming the power of nomination we should exclude many gentlemen of wealth and position who would gladly give their services if nominated, but who would be unwilling for obvious reasons to seek election and that we could not afford to dispense with this class. In other towns important minorities, such as the Mahomedan community, thought that the withdrawal of nominations would leave them unrepresented. Well, as you know the project could not be carried out without legislation the consent of the Government of India has to be obtained. Looking to the strength and weight of the opinions given against the change, the Government of India have desired that, I should not for the present proceed any further with the legislation requisite to carry out my proposal ; so for the present it will remain in abeyance. The other part of my plan, that of allowing the scheduled municipalities for the most part to elect their own Chairman, will however be given effect to."

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

GENERAL BOULANGER has mysteriously left France, it is surmised for Russia.

GENERAL Annenkoff, the constructor of the Trans-Caspian Railway, lately paid a visit to Paris. He was the guest of his brother-in-law Viscount Vogué, and the lion of the hour of the gay and excitable capital. He was entertained by M. de Lesseps, M. Eiffel, and M. Napoleon Ray, the companion of his travels, whom he first knew at St. Petersburg, at the time of the Embassy of General Chanzy.

The latest news is that General Annenkoff has been appointed Director of the Railway of his own making.

THE Railway Conference commenced on the 4th. It does not promise much. Its deliberations are to be private and not to be published till the English Boards of Directors have formed their own conclusions. The report has a good chance of a safe and undisturbed retreat on the upper shelves.

ON the first of the month, Sir Charles Elliott opened the Art Union of the Simla Admiration and Adulation Society, ycleped Fine Arts Exhibition. This is the 21st year of the Institution and marked by the absence of professional exhibitors. It has degenerated into a hole and corner dilettante business. Last year, the presence of Mr. Archer gave it an adventitious importance. This time, it is Scotch without Art.

HIS Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught opened on the 4th instant the Soldiers' Industrial Exhibition at Poona.

THE dismissed menial Nanhu who, for some real or fancied wrong, stabbed his old master Pleader Kanhya Lall, in open court at Lucknow, has been sentenced to death for murder. Lucky for justice, there was no Woodroffe to defend, nor Calcutta High Court to try him.

THE Hunmant Rao trial drags its slow length along.

MR. ARTHUR CRAWFORD is to be tried by a Commission of his own peers—the Hon. Justice Bayley, of the Bombay High Court, Mr. Quinton of the North-Western Provinces, and Mr. Robert Crosthwaite, Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

THE death of Major Battye and Captain Urniston in the Agrai Valley is to be avenged. The Black Mountaineers must be brought to their senses. A Force, to be called the Hazara Field Force, has been ordered, under command of the Brigadier-General J. McQueen.

SRIMAN SWAMI, a Madras Graduate, who has taken to asceticism, who, having organized a society for the protection and preservation of cows, is now in Calcutta on his mission, drew a large and mixed audience last Saturday at the Town Hall, to hear him on the question

and cheer him up in his efforts. Raja Poorna Chunder Singh of Paikpara presided.

The Swami does not proceed on religious grounds. He only asks to spare the cow which is so useful. He contends that she is not slaughtered in any other part of the world, why then should she be made to furnish the dinner table in India, where a majority of the natives reverence her? The Swami has the good wishes of all Hindus and of every good Mussulman.

A NATIVE recruiter of emigrants went with a batch of labourers to Ceylon. He was accompanied by his daughter. His mission ended, he was back to the Continent, with an addition to his household. Not that he had married in Ceylon, or given in marriage, and was accompanied by wife or son-in-law. Nevertheless, they who had gone two returned three, himself, his daughter, and another eminent gentleman, though of unenviable notoriety. The numerical question, however, is an open one still. People in general admitted the return to the Madras country of two persons, but the father protested there was, besides his daughter, another, whom they saw not. But recruiters are not always precise in number, and the neighbours left the little family to enjoy the satisfaction of an imaginary addition. The prospect of a real, or, at least, visible addition was sought for when, shortly after, the girl was married. This hope was disappointed: there was no visible fruit of the union. And this was the work of the invisible presence. The Cingalese spirit which had crossed the sea on the back of the poor girl had caused the barrenness. Of this the father at any rate was certain, and the daughter possibly had gradually been brought round to the same view. So they set about in earnest to free the household of the undesirable presence. A famous diabolic doctor was brought in. He knew what was what. It was the devil and no mistake, and a very formidable one of that ilk. Probably it was the same ancient enemy of our race who had brought death into the world and all our woes, who tempted too womanly Eve, and who had been living retired in a cave of Adam's Peak, until he was, in his dotage, himself tempted in turn by the unadorned native charms of the Coolie Recruiting Sergeant's dark daughter. The doctor was equal to the occasion. He prescribed a drastic remedy and a heroic dose. There was only one way, in his opinion, of escape from the dilemma, and that was by humouring the devil out of his present stronghold with the offer of a human life. True to this *diabolopathy*, the father went out prowling about unfrequented paths for his prey. A crack recruiter could not be long in finding fit game. He met his man, wheedled him away to drink, and, when toddy had done for him enough, the poor fellow was done for outright. His throat was cut and the blood received into a vessel and mixed with rice into a ball which was thrown into the air for the feast of the invisible one. The body was further cut up and secreted in a tank. As usual, it was discovered, and the father arrested and tried, the daughter being the principal witness.

ACCORDING to Pundit Modhusudan Sitiratna, Professor of Smriti in the Calcutta Sanskrit College—On the 20th Kartic next, both the Swati Martunda Yoga and Kurukshetra Yoga take place. The former is predicative of too much rain or of a heavy cyclone, and forebodes destruction both of buds and men. He defines Swati Martunda Yoga thus :—If in the month of Kartic, a Sunday or a Saturday or a Tuesday coincides with Kuhu-Anabashya (new moon), that Yoga is called Swati Martunda Yoga, Kurukshetra Yoga is the union of *Tithi*, *Nakshatra*, and *Yoga* on the same day, and forebodes evil to Kings, loss of crops, rainless clouds, and loss of wealth by the people. And the *Indian Mirror* gravely publishes all this stuff, with evident reliance on the prophecy of pseudo-astronomy by a Professor of Hindu Theology, who never looked up the skies and knows not Jupiter from Mars and could not identify any of the *Nakshatras* of which he glibly talks!

THE Editor of the *Hyderabad Record*, Mr. Solomon, has petitioned the Resident for revision of the sentence of six months' simple imprisonment passed by Mr. Tucker, Superintendent and Magistrate of the Residency Bazaars, at the instance of the Pleader Mr. Leach. He urges really good reasons, which afford an instructive glimpse of Residency justice. Mr. Tucker framed two issues, namely, 1. Is the accused the editor or publisher of the *Hyderabad Record* and is this paper published in the Residency Bazaars? 2. Has the accused in the said article defamed the complainant? As regards

the first, it seems one witness was examined who deposed that the accused was the editor. There was no proof of publication, and when, after the case for the prosecution, the defence claimed acquittal in the absence of the material evidence which would give the Magistrate jurisdiction, Mr. Tucker rectified the record by calling in his subordinate Lieutenant Tighe to prove a kind of publication. The Lieutenant, we are told, simply said, without producing it, that he saw and read a copy of the *Record* "which came to him" on his table. The magistrate was so much convinced of the guilt of the accused, that he would not wait for strict proof of a formality of the kind. The other issue was as easily disposed of. The imputations were divided into five, namely, three allegations of drunkenness, one of reckless slaughter of reputation of other men, and one of misconduct of complainant in a case in which he represented the Crown. The accused claimed the benefit of the first and ninth exceptions in sec. 499 I. P. C., inasmuch as the complainant was editor of a paper, a pleader and a Crown prosecutor and it was for the public good that his conduct was brought to light. At an early stage, Mr. Tucker overruled the plea and now disallowed all questions in cross-examination regarding Mr. Leach's private life bearing on the first three imputations. The Court would not accept any evidence of the complainant's acts or offences except their previous establishment in a Court of law. With reference to the fourth and fifth imputations, on formal denial of truth by the complainant, Mr. Tucker framed a charge under Sec. 500, to which the accused pleaded not guilty, and in absence of any other evidence, convicted Mr. Solomon and in the interest of the public, sentenced, to exemplary punishment for "a gross and unjustifiable outrage," a man who seemed to him "to be perfectly ignorant of what the responsibilities of the editor of the newspapers are."

In our issue of the 18th August, we inserted the representation of the Mahomedan Literary Society regarding discipline and moral training in public schools. We are sorry we had been unable before this to notice the same. The document, though addressed to Government from the orthodox Mahomedan point of view so far as the followers of Islam are concerned, does not betray any intolerance of other creeds. In terms it speaks of the wants of the Hindu community in a spirit far removed from antagonism, and is altogether pitched in a tone which is a happy compromise between respect for self and tolerance for others. In deploring the laxity of discipline and the want of reverence for authority in the rising generation, in protesting against any aid from public funds being given to avowedly proselytising educational institutions, in asking for facilities to the instruction of youth in their respective religions in all schools, public or aided, and in insisting that the officers of the educational department should possess proper moral qualifications, the Mahomedan Literary Society put forward demands which will be unhesitatingly endorsed by the Hindu community. It is therefore painful to see a journal bearing, above all, the name of the *Hindoo Patriot* carping at the Society, under what, in all charity we hope, is only a serious misapprehension. Says the *H. P.*—

"Our friends of the Mahomedan Literary Society have singular ideas regarding discipline and moral training in our public schools. The *rod* and the *Koran*, according to them, will cure the evils *we all deplore*. Let *our* erring youths taste of the *rod*, and read a few pages of the *Koran* without understanding what is written in them and they cannot fail to be patterns of social virtues."

Now to give precedence to things holy, the Society nowhere recommend in terms the study of the *Koran*, by rote or otherwise. What they ask for is "the inculcation of students *in the principles of their own religion* with the desire and consent of their proper guardians," the prescribing of "*books of religious tendency*," and removing the deficiencies of the secular education of Government schools by adding thereto "a course of religious instruction." It is good for every Mahomedan to read the *Koran*, even by rote. Generally, the particular passages requisite for daily prayers are taught at home at a tender age, when the memory is strong and the tongue flexible. The Mahomedans do not want any instruction in schools for that purpose. Their grown up men often study their holy book, some in the original Arabic and many more with the help of translations. But even this is not what we understand the Society to desire to be introduced in schools. In the 5th para of their representation, they expressly request that in purely Mahomedan schools, *elementary instruction* in the *vernacular* languages be given through books of religious tendency; and obviously these books must be in the vernacular languages. Similar-

ly, in the same paragraph, as read with that preceding it, they ask that in mixed schools the Mahomedans be allowed to supply properly qualified teachers to *lecture* separately to the Mahomedan students upon the principles of their own religion. So far as we can understand, the Society would be glad if the Hindus did likewise for their own students. Is it not unjust and unfair to represent all this as a prescription for the study of the *Koran* by rote and nothing more?

And then, in the name of all that is sacred in Hinduism and Patriotism, is it intended to suggest that the Society mean to compel a general study of the *Koran* by all the *alumni* of public schools? Is not the phrase "*our erring youths*" proceeding from patriotic Hindu lips suggestive of such a meaning? But not the most careless reader of the Society's letter can ascribe to it such an intention. Turning now to the *rod*, the critic entirely overlooks the circumstance that the Society do not at all recommend the infliction of the barbarous methods of punishment so common in the old class *patshalas* and *maktabs* in India. They are also averse to the use of the *rod* by way of whipping, and hold the opinion that "only the milder forms of corporal punishment can be resorted to in the case of native students." Do these views shew any ultra radical leaning?

The critic's last fling is at the refusal of the Society to encourage the production of "a moral text-book based on the fundamental principles of natural religion." If the writer in the *Hindoo Patriot* had but known how the term *natural religion* stinks in the nostrils of all orthodox Mussulmans in India, owing to the association of ideas created thereby with the heretic *Naturists* of the Allypore school, he would at once have understood the very strong antipathy and suspicion with which all the orthodox Faithful must regard such a proposal. Apart therefrom, we cannot find anything wrong in the believers of a particular religion insisting upon getting their morals at first hand from their own scriptures, and not in an emasculated and attenuated form, through, what to them must seem, an artificial and defective medium.

THE *Tirhoot Courier* is one of our best papers, and we are not surprised to read in its issue of the 29th August a sensible article on the National Congress. Starting with the interest created in the movement in England, so much so that Mr. Caine, the Unionist Member for Barrow, formerly Secretary to the Navy, and other political notabilities are expected to be present at the coming Congress at Allahabad, the writer notices the struggle going on in the principal cities of India, between the advocates and the detractors of the Congress. In his own District, however, he sees no signs of any interest in the matter. Tirhoot is too mercenary for political aspirations and withal too ignorant of external affairs. That may be true, only it is, unfortunately, true of the greater part of the Empire. But the *Courier* lays itself open to the charge of fouling its own nest when it goes on to tell a trumpery, at any rate, foolish, story of

"a Mukhtiar here who believes that Lord Dufferin was a Joint Magistrate in Russia. As that country was going to invade India, Lord Dufferin was sent here as Viceroy in order to get *Mohullut*, (an adjournment) a word dear unto all Tirhutean minds. As he has not succeeded in getting the full time he asked for, he is abandoning the Viceroyalty, without serving his full time of service. Such is the average knowledge of politics in this part of the world."

That seems to us rather a gross exaggeration, and not much to the point. It is, however, a momentary fall into the temptation of smartness. In the main, the article is free from misrepresentation. Even the Mahomedans receive their due—rather a phenomenon in these days in Hindu journalism (we suppose we may take the *Courier* for a representative of the Hindu, if not the Bengali, Press.) The *Courier* does not seek to hide the fact that the great bulk of the Mahomedans are opposed to the Congress. It has even the fairness to acknowledge the force of the complaints of the Mahomedans. It not only does not fall foul of the opposition, but, unlike most of its brethren, it has the eye to discern where the shoe pinches the Mahomedans. We think it both wise and honest to recognise the legitimate apprehension of thoughtful Mahomedans that, by joining in the demand for representative institutions, they might be assisting in throwing power into the lap of the Hindus and Parsees, to the practical exclusion of the followers of Islam. It will never do to try to blind men to the obvious.

More wonderful still, our contemporary spares Raja Shivaprasad himself, the ogre of Indian patriotism of the day. That a Tirhoot journal will deal tenderly with the Raja and the great landowners, was but natural, but that was all the more reason for exhausting all the pent up

Congressist bile on the devoted head of that busybody, the parvenu outsider of Benares. But no—

"Strong supporters of the Congress as we are, we cannot see that we are helping it in any way by reviling our opponents or minimising the strength of their position. The Raja party is naturally opposed to representative institutions. Some Rajas may be representative of the people, as is the case of our chief Tirhoot nobleman, the Maharaja of Durbhangah. Some, however, grossly misrepresent them. And with a system of popular government there is but little doubt that it would not be the Rajas, but a new class of men, the graduates of the Universities, the lawyers, the Doctors and some of the chief merchants that would come to the front. As to the rage of the Raja party as shown in the proposal made at a meeting at Benares, to petition Government that all who attended the Congress should be denied a seat at Durbars, we may allow it to burn itself out."

But what does our contemporary mean by saying—

"There is no doubt that the warlike races of Hindustan do not love the Bengalee. They do not object to be ruled by Englishmen, for they recognise in them a race stronger than they are. But they have the strongest objection to Bengalee domination."

That is untenable in theory, and untrue in fact. We thought the *Tirhoot Courier* knew better than to be deceived by a passing phenomenon. It is true that Europeans, naturally in part jealous of the growing influence of the educated classes of Bengal, and still more irritated by the unmanly system of constant vilification towards them adopted by a set of native speakers and journalists who are far from representing the respectability and education of native society, have succeeded in causing a sort of estrangement between the Bengalees and the other peoples rather than races of the Bengal Presidency. But the feeling is abnormal and absurd and is by no means deep. A difference artificially created must be sooner or later determined. Meanwhile, the misrepresented people should be patient and forbear. It is a great pity that so able and respectable an organ of native opinion in the Bengal Provinces as the *Tirhoot Courier*, should heedlessly lend itself to the unworthy game of the enemies of both the Empire and the whole Indian people. For nothing that isolates the most intellectual community of all India from the rest or truly alienates it from the Government, can be good for either.

THE *Tirhoot Courier* writes :—

"Some would put the influence of Western education as the chief factor in making the India of to-day a different India from what existed fifty years ago. We, ourselves, are of opinion that its range is not so wide nor its influence so deep, as the results of science, we have mentioned above."

Our contemporary is evidently under the spell of the day, or else so able a journal would discern the exaggerated importance it accords to science in changing the moral and social condition of man. Science is irresistible in the long run, but the run is often much too long. It is the moral arts (not to say, sciences) that directly and quickly appeal to the moral man. In India, the facts are distinctly opposed to the writer's view.

He almost admits as much in the following, and but for the "fad" would accept the truth without hesitation :—

"The greatest direct factor in the education of the people, has, we believe, been Western science. It has not indeed made them change many of their insular ways. But it has taught them that they are nearer akin to each other and to other races, than they ever thought possible."

We are astonished to find such a sentence as the last coming from such a clever pen. Has Ethnology really gone down with our people in the way that it is here represented? And does it really teach that the races of India are akin to each other? Will the writer answer the obvious question, Which is which? We are afraid, his science is a sword that cuts both ways.

THE Anglo-Indians are great beyond question—in British India, at any rate. How much greater the *khus* British at Home! They have just given a singular proof of their superiority to the waifs and strays of insects from the great national Hive who sit on the noses of the Chiefs and princes of the East and bite the sleek persons of the Baboos. It will be remembered how the other day our superior British neighbours swallowed a poor Mahomedan hoax, and not only gave currency to, but some of them even gravely discussed, the announcement that Her Majesty had sent for a tutor of Hindustani for herself, and that a Lucknow Nawabing who, in spite of Mr. Secretary Peacock (his tenant), had repeatedly failed in the Registration Department, had been appointed to the office. Nothing, one would suppose, could be wilder than such an idea, or more absurd than the carrying out of it in the way alleged. But it appears that at Home they have gone beyond the Indian feat. We are told that it is widely reported in

London that a Professor of Sanskrit has been appointed in connection with the Imperial Institute, with the view of assisting Sir John Somers Vine in his communications with the Princes, Chiefs, and subscribing people of India!

THE Rev. J. W. Horsley, formerly Chaplain at Clerkenwell Gaol, thus reports, in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the progress of drunkenness in England :—

"The following table I have compiled from the Judicial Statistics for England and Wales for the last ten years. The first column gives the number of males, the second that of females, who in the year were found on reception into prison to have been convicted over ten times, and therefore to be not unfairly classed as incurable. The third column gives the proportion the men bear, and the fourth that of the women, to the total number of recommitted prisoners as distinct from mere first offenders.

	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1878	—	—	8'3	22'1
1879	3,706	5,673	8'3	22'4
1880	3,691	5,800	8'3	23'6
1881	3,618	6,773	8'2	27'3
1882	4,148	7,496	8'8	27'4
1883	4,391	8,946	8'9	29'3
1884	4,734	9,319	9'4	30'2
1885	5,188	9,451	10'0	31'6
1886	5,074	8,981	10'1	33'2
1887	5,686	9,764	11'1	34'2

It will be remembered that crime generally has so largely and continuously decreased, and that absolutely and not relatively to the population merely, that there are now 6,000 fewer in our local prisons each day than was the case in 1876. Yet there is always a steady increase in the most noxious and burdensome incurable class. Men in this category are at their worst twice as good as the women at their best; women at their best are nearly thrice as bad as the men in the same year, and twice as bad as men at their worst. The men are only 3 per cent. worse than ten years ago; the women are 12 per cent. worse. These figures represent commitments and not individuals, many, but not all, being committed, and therefore counted, severally in the year. They are chiefly habitual drunkards."

What a pitiable disclosure! It were ten times better that England should bear the reproach of being a nation of shopkeepers or of Philistines, than incur the odium of being the land of publicans and sinners!

NOR is that all. The vice seems spreading all round, and even penetrating into the educated classes.

HERE is as precious a clerical sot as could be found. At the Winchester Assizes, Mr. Baron Huddleston has sentenced the Rev. Edward Stormont Rounds, a clergyman of the Church of England, to twelve months' hard labor, for stealing a chest of drawers of which he was the bailee. In awarding the punishment, on conviction by the Jury, the Judge said that "from the information before him he found that the prisoner had neglected, if not abandoned, his wife; he had been from town to town obtaining furniture by fraudulent means, and reports to that effect had been sent from the neighbourhood of Sheffield, Derby, and Salisbury. He had also disgraced his sacred profession by continual acts of drunkenness."

Clergymen are but men, and there will always be sinners among them, as there have been. Friar Tuck is no mere creation of genius, but a character founded on fact. The religious controversies, of rival sects, particularly since the attacks of Wickliff and Luther, have torn to tatters the pretensions to sanctity of ecclesiastics. In later times, a learned clergyman, moving in the highest society—a Doctor of Divinity into the bargain—was hanged for forgery. But though Dr. Dodd was a bolder, deeper offender, we are afraid, for all round depravity, the Rev. Mr. Rounds, true to his name, has scarcely a match in the annals of clerical shame. And yet, according to the doctrine, or rather fiction, of the Church, this man has had a call from Heaven to the cure of souls. No man ever more needed to be reminded of the saying, *Physician, heal thyself!*

THE Calcutta Municipality has awakened to the unwisdom of allowing structures over footpaths. Sir Stuart Hogg firmly discountenanced all such applications. But Sir Henry Harrison commenced with a different view. He would freely allow these structural improvements of the town, and even exceeded the law in closing a bargain with the Great Eastern Hotel Company. The Company no doubt has added to the beauty of that portion of the town though at a sacrifice of the light, air, and dryness of their own ground-floor. The structure exists but the municipality had to give up the annual income they expected to derive from it. In the native town, the permission has been simply abused. The so called structural improvements only set off the nakedness of the original buildings and have been converted into additional accommodation for residence, the

best in the house, over the heads of people, making the main structure more ugly and less wholesome. We are glad therefore that the Municipal Commissioners at their meeting of Thursday the 6th September passed a resolution prohibiting a roof or covering of any kind over a sanctioned verandah over a footpath. We hope they will grow wiser yet, and not sanction an addition where it is not a distinct improvement, esthetically and otherwise. A dear solicitor!

THE Commissioners have commenced to be liberal to their new Secretary. They have sanctioned for him a bonus of Rs. 500 for acting the Vice-Chairman in addition to his own duties for three months, which he agreed to do without additional remuneration—in the face of a resolution that no additional expense was to be incurred while Baboo Gopal Lall Mitter was away on leave. The Hon'ble Commissioner who moved the resolution is fond of bonuses. He allows it to his own office men—as he informed his brethren of the Board.

IN our issues of the 28th July and 4th August, we published, to the vexation of many unprincipled men, a complete list of the pensions sanctioned by Government for the female members of the late King of Oudh's Household. They who knew the anxiety which the royal and noble ladies laboured under, from the representations of designing men and the bleeding to which they were subjected, by the pettifogging amlah, lawyers and law agents or other nondescript varlets who found access to them, will realise the service we did, both to the unfortunate ladies and to the Government, (assuming that justice and reputation are any concern to it) by our prompt publication. We at once knocked on the head all the intrigues and fleeing going on. The chances of making money by false pretences, by offering to procure pensions for the ignorant and cowed down women, were certainly minimised when the Government provision for the late King's Seraglio was out and might be learnt in all detail from *Reis and Rayyet*.

To-day, we are enabled to do a similar piece of service, by laying before the public the provision made by the Government of India for the more lucky servants of the late King. A few of them are to be dismissed with gratuities, but the rest are to receive monthly stipends. In another column, or rather other columns, for it is a voluminous affair, we publish complete Lists of the Pensions and the Gratuities sanctioned. We have procured the Lists for some time, but the names were a stumbling block to the printer and their "reading" took some time. And then, we were anxious to issue the Lists in one week. Now we have found space for them, comments may well stand over for a future opportunity.

THERE is a fatality about the affairs of the Oudh Royal Family. We hear of the intrigues at Native Courts, and that of the late King Wajid Ali Shah was popularly considered most open to reproach on that behalf. One might suppose, therefore, that Intrigue was interred with the majesty of buried Oudh. Not a bit of it. Intrigue flourishes today as ever; the venue only is changed. The Court of Garden Reach having been dispersed, Intrigue has now taken up its Head Quarters at Alipore, in the heart of the British Collectorate, where it is breeding and "enlarging," and whence it sends its promising progeny out to colonise new and tempting lands and extend its sway to other shores. It is the same at the Presidency as in Moorshedabad. Intrigue has a feline tenacity of life. The things that are done in British Durbars, great and small, fill one with astonishment.

IT is three months since we announced that the Honourable Moulvi Abdool Jubbar, Deputy Magistrate, 24-Pergunnas, had been appointed to the charge of the disbursement, under the Collector, of the pensions &c. to the family and retainers of the late King of Oudh. Will it be believed that the Moulvi has not yet got the charge? Under successive Collectors, the orders of Government have remained a dead letter. It is no secret in whose favour this contempt of Government is persisted in. Colonel Prideaux, the Agent of the Governor-General with the late King, in making his report on the arrangements for carrying on the remaining duties of the Agency when it would be broken up, by way of parting kiss to his guide, philosopher and friend, recommended his "Baboo" as his fittest successor for the control of the late King's Household, under the Collector. We say successor, because the Collector's control must be nominal. And the Baboo was no longer to be a "Baboo" but, as the dear old Colonel proposed, elevated to the dignity of a Deputy Collector, with Deputy Collectorial pay and privileges, but relieved of the obligation of Government servants of all

grades to shift from place to place. Instead of avoiding the Moorshedabad precedent, the Agent copied it to a fault. His favorite was to be a Bangsidhar at Calcutta. Many strange things are done under the nose of Viceroys and Governors, but this proposed job was rather too much of a good thing. Government rejected the proposal, and directed the charge to be given to one of the Deputy Collectors at the head quarters of the 24 Pergunnas under the Collector, with Kedar as head clerk. It was doubtless considered fortunate that there was a Mahomedan Deputy Collector of acknowledged ability and integrity, then serving also as a member of the Bengal Legislative Council. But here the Collector interposed. He would not have the Moulvi and proposed another of his Deputies, a Hindu. The Government still preferred the Mahomedan as obviously the fitter official for the charge of a princely Mahomedan household. But Government proposes and the District King disposes. And there is no Chamber in India to ask why. Notwithstanding the Lieutenant-Governor's orders, the charge was given to the Hindu. Then Moulvi Abdool Jubbar was on short leave. He has now returned these two months or more, but there was no disposition to carry out the authorised arrangement. Again and again, has Government repeated its command, but to no purpose. It is all the same whether Forbes is King or Bolton. The almighty Baboo is master of the situation. The Moulvi is well out of the "bother," but he can, we fancy, scarcely relish the position of a laughing stock to which, between Baboo and Briton, he has been reduced. Meteebrooj, too, doubtless suffers. Meanwhile, the Baboo rules the roast.

THE *Lahore Tribune* is engaged on a series of leading articles on what it styles "Official Celebrities in the Hyderabad Business." It is a queer title enough, reminding one, in that word "Business" in such a position, of the coarse vernacularity of *Porcupine's Gazette*. But "Celebrities" too is employed in a rather unusual sense. By "official celebrities" in especial, are ordinarily understood officials—men, that is. Our contemporary applies it to things. Its present article is the sixth of its series. It has for a second title "The Select Committee of the House of Commons." And that is one of our contemporary's "official celebrities in the Hyderabad Business." The opening sentence runs as follows:—

"The greatest celebrity of all, in connection with this Hyderabad business, would seem to be the Select Committee, appointed by the House of Commons to inquire into the causes which had led up to those gigantic frauds on the Nizam, known as the Hyderabad (Deccan) Railway and Mining Companies."

The article closes unfortunately too, in a literary sense, thus:—

"We hope the Committee will realise the truth of the legal maxim '*judex damnatur, cum nocens solvitur*.'"

Our contemporary of course draws his legal maxim from the blue and yellow cover of the *Edinburgh Review*, but there is a mistake in the quotation. The words are—*Judex damnatur cum nocens absolvitur*. They are from Publius Syrus, whose works the Edinburgh Reviewers from first to last never read. The Syrian was no legal authority but only a playwright, though, as his words so circulated by the famous Quarterly prove, a wise man beyond question.

MR. HENVEY has been to Gwalior and left—for Simla direct. Babu Saheb Jadon, the father of the Queen Dowager, has been temporarily placed at the head of the Regency Council as acting President. The permanent appointment awaits viceregal sanction. Our information, which we implicitly trust, is that the universal expectation and desire is that the Babu Saheb be confirmed in his officiating post. Meanwhile, there is great perturbation from a rumour that the Agent to the Governor-General means to propose the Resident for the direct head of the Regency. We respectfully warn the Government against any such outrage in Gwalior of all places. It will never do.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1888.

WANTED—A JUDGE. OR A JUDGESHIP?

FOR sometime past, the quidnuncs of the local press have been very much exercised at the news of an expected vacancy in the high seat of Her Majesty's Judicature at Fort William in Bengal. It began as a decision of the question of inheritance to a worthy Judge—not less so because he is a swarthy one—who had no intention of dying an official

death so soon—and whose retirement from public office in the prime of his powers would be a great public loss, as we explained in a recent issue. Since then, the rumour has taken another shape, namely, that there is to be a third Native Judge in the local High Court. The names of two distinguished Vakils—Hindus for no fault of their own—were mentioned as the limit of selection. We believe there is some foundation for the rumour that the Native element was to be further strengthened in that direction. The report of the Public Service Commission frankly admitted the success of Native Judges and clearly indicated that further liberal progress in such appointments was desirable, and it is not unlikely that the English authorities would advocate concessions in this direction, when they have been bold enough to admit natives of India to executive charge of districts. We think that either of the two names, if selected, would give public satisfaction. The one a Brahman and the other a Kayasth, and both very able, upright, and independent. It is a common remark that Brahmans and Kayasths furnish the bulk of our most intellectual and educated men. On the High Court Bench, the first Judge elect was a Brahman, who never lived to enjoy the distinction. The first *pucca* Judge was also a Brahman and, although his worthy successor was a Kayasth, the next appointment—an officiating one—fell to a Brahman. These worthies have all been gathered to their forefathers, but the last officiating Native Judge and both the *pucca* Native Judges of the present are Kayasths. If we were to follow the policy of balancing various communities so often preached to Government—and once seriously acted upon in the Western Presidency to the serious detriment of the poor Brahman—the third Native Judge should be a Brahman. But this is no question for tribal rivalry. For that matter, we may even allow that the names alluded to do not exhaust the field of selection—as there is a distinguished Vaidya Vakil, much by far their senior, who is quite qualified, by his intelligence, integrity, independence and attainments, to discharge the duties of that high office.

Things had reached up to this stage, when an editorial note appears in the *Englishman*, deprecating, in the usual covert style, the addition to the strength of the Native element on the High Court Bench, but asserting that, if such an evil were to come, the least unacceptable form of it would be the appointment of Mr. Amir Ali. This is advocated on grounds of justice to the large Mahomedan community of Bengal. For ourselves, we have the fullest sympathy with our Mahomedan brethren in Bengal and out of it, and we fully sympathise with their endeavours after more extended employment in the public service. But a Judgeship of the High Court is still such a rare prize for natives of the country, that it should only be given on the ground of absolute merit and not upon the ground of belonging to a particular creed or caste. The British have still a wide part of the field, and they may afford to commit a job now and then, and fill up a vacancy with a man of mediocre attainments. But a native Judge in the High Court is still the cynosure of all eyes, the van-guard of the march of native progress, and, as such, he may still make or mar the future prospects of his countrymen. The unsuccess, for instance, of Babu Mohendro Nath Bose in his officiating appointment has dealt a serious blow to the prospects of the subordinate Judicial Service in that direction, although, at the very latest moment, the fair name of Babu Brojendra Kumar Seal has been mentioned. Besides,

the Europeans have so many prizes to give away that, if they throw away one, they do not thereby disappoint for long their really deserving men. The natives of the country, on the contrary, are more numerous, and the prize appointments within their reach are still to be counted upon ones fingers. Under such circumstances, the failure to select the most competent Native for the High Court Bench, may inflict far greater injury to deserving individuals than could be the case in the wrong selection of a Britisher.

The *Englishman* speaks of Mr. Ameer Ali as a *candidate* for the post. We are not in the secrets of that learned gentleman; we are bound to suppose the newspaper which speaks of him so admiringly is in such a position. But certainly we are entitled to protest against the use of the term for the Hindu gentlemen whose names have been taken in this connection. We are sure they would all scout with derision the idea of submitting humble applications for the post, or enforcing their candidature to the attention of the authorities by kindly notices in the public press. The Hindu community would certainly cease to respect any gentleman who stooped to candidature or canvass for such a post. From their point of view, the honor ought to come unsolicited as a recognition of undoubted merit, and not as a favor procured by tout-ing of any description.

If another Native of India is to be elevated to the Bench of the High Court, we sincerely trust that the selection will be made on grounds of merit alone, irrespective of political or racial considerations. Memberships of the Legislative Council—ornamental and harmless baubles that they are at present—may well be thrown away as a sop to political clamourers, but it would be an evil precedent to import such considerations in the constitution of the Bench. To have been a keen politician ought to be rather a disqualification than a recommendation for a Judge.

Looking even to the narrow ground upon which the *Englishman* bases its advocacy, many will arrive at a different conclusion. Mr. Amir Ali has travelled to England, adopted European habits of life, and latterly married a European lady. To the great mass of his countrymen, he is more a *sahib* than a native, and the ignorant amongst them will wonder that the appreciation of his talents was reserved to be made until this late stage of his career. The elevation of such a man would be a strange way of humouring Islam and securing the interests of the Mahomedan community. His connections were before barely Mahomedan—now they are becoming Frank and Nazarene. Of course, if the British mean to offer a premium on natives to follow the example, it is useless to argue.

VENICE IN CALCUTTA AND THE PURITAN DOGES.

HITHERTO the discovery of mares' nests was a line of journalism in which the *Mirror* held a monopoly. In its latter days, the grave *Hindoo Patriot* seems emulous of the distinction. Between them, they have, in the late rains, fished a whale in the Hoogly—discovered a regular Nero. *Seniores priores*, the *Patriot* is entitled to precedence in this notorious feat. It first hooked its prey, when the other helped to capture and board it. Thus, in noticing the recent flooding of the streets, the *Patriot* says:—

"Inhabitants of some of the streets had an opportunity, which they freely availed, (*sic.*) of fishing at their own house-doors and a fashionable

Babu—a scion of a great family—made a day of it by actually manning a pleasure-barge with a party of musicians and sailing down the streets! Neso in burning Rome could hardly have been so happy."

If the *Hindoo Patriot* had just the decency to refrain from naming its "Nero," the *Indian Mirror* was retained by no such minor scruples. It actually named a respectable Zemindar of the city, the younger son of the late Baboo Romaprasad Roy, (first native Judge of H. M. High Courts in India,) and grandson of the illustrious Raja Ram Mohan Roy, as the atrocious man. But our contemporaries may find this sort of search after equine quarters a costly game. They have laid themselves open to a charge of defamation as well as a suit for damages. Baboos who haul up a barge on land to launch it in the streets and sail through them, are *prima facie* dangerous to meddle with. The editor of the *Indian Mirror*, who was the other day taken up on a warrant from Rajshaye District for libelling the Government Pleader there and is now on bail awaiting trial, might be expected to be more careful in provoking young shoots of aristocracy pursuing their own pleasures in quiet at their own sweet will. Are people to be gibbeted because they do not join the National Congress or fail to see wisdom in the *Indian Mirror* or cannot parse the *Patriot*? At any rate, it is not always a safe diversion. In digging for worms, our contemporaries may find themselves drawing out the hooded serpent.

And for what? What nonsense is this about Nero? Has Baboo Peary Mohan really done anything atrocious if he has voyaged through Calcutta? One would suppose he had done a very smart and sensible thing in discarding his coach and horses and bringing in his boats when Calcutta was under water. Who knows but that the young gentleman, who is reputed to be highly intelligent and a person of education, had been taking soundings of the streets to ascertain the success of the drainage system and the adequacy of the town arrangements, and that he may yet favour us with the results of his investigation? Or, was the band on board the special sin in the eyes of our contemporaries, deaf to the voice of music? It would have been all right in the Prince of Wales or the Viceroy, if either had been so accompanied on his voyage. It is said that the great American theologian Jonathan Edwards used to strike terror into the hearts of his congregation by his sermons. Our contemporaries are preachers after the stamp of the Transatlantic Calvinist. Their idea evidently is that the Baboo, who is their butt, had no business to be happy under the dispensation of God by which the land was filled with water. Why not? As a landlord, he has done the most natural thing in jubiling on the favour of God in granting the opportunity for cultivation to the peasantry which will bring grist to his mill and put money in his purse. These Cockney editors have no other notion of the rain than as a nasty thing which spoils the roads of the town and incommodes the poor of the metropolis.

What would our woe-begone moralists have? And what did they do? Can they say that they did not go out to see the water in the streets and on the *maidan*? Is it allowable to go out in carriages which are almost useless and certainly very inconvenient on such occasions, and not to use boats? But then the Baboo had music with him! So much the better for him. Instead of admiring his taste, he is flagellated. Ought he to have been crying over the huts that were injured? But did our unco-good journalists themselves cry? The Baboo's act was only similar to skating in Europe and America, with the band playing, during a severe winter, which necessarily means distress to thousands.

For ourself, we confess we regard Baboo Peary Mohan's proceeding with absolute admiration. There may be genius in diversion, and he has shown originality in pleasure—usually a sad business at best. He has achieved the rare distinction of discovering a new sensation.

Our contemporaries we would address in the words of the Poet—

*Quid de quoque viro, et cui dicas, sacpe videto:
Percontatorem fugito, nam garrulus idem est,
Nec retinent patulae commissa fuleliter aures;
Et semel emissum volat irrevocabile verbum.*

ELECTRICITY IN OPHTHALMIC MEDICINE.

NOT long ago, we wrote a leading article on Electro-biology. (On referring to it in our issue of July 11, we remark that in

the 2nd paragraph, line 3, between would and on, the word proceed has been left out.) On that occasion, we referred to the more mysterious manifestations of the human consciousness which, for want of any better explanation, are roundly attributed to electricity or magnetism. But there is a more prosaic and far more useful aspect of the subject—we mean the relation of electricity, magnetism and galvanism to Pathology and Medicine. This branch of the subject, strangely neglected in England, has been cultivated with some success on the Continent. The French are the leading authorities, British physicians are, for the most part, content to draw their information at second-hand from French and German treatises, as to allow foreigners almost to monopolise the practice of this branch of medicine. Be that as it may, the value of mesmerism, magneto-electricity and galvanism in certain diseases, of the nervous order in especial, is admitted. It comes to something like this, therefore, that, whether or no electricity is life itself, it has an intimate connection with, and influence on, the characteristic peculiarity of animal existence. That electricity, in the form in which it is commonly and strikingly manifested in Nature, exercises a dangerous effect on man and beast, in fact a crushing, extinguishing effect, had been long known. From the earliest ages, men have seen how the lightning strikes animals deaf and dumb and even dead, how it burns up whole forests—cuts through the hardest rocks. But these several actions might be, as they seemed, the necessary results of the physical properties of the lightning, instead of being the outcome of any inherent subtle faculty. As fire it burns, and, by force of the prodigious momentum with which it is charged, it cleaves and makes its way through the hardest obstacles in its path. Its fierce light and terrific report overpower the senses and life itself. The question still remained, whether, apart from these accessory features, it possessed any specific attribute capable of exercising an influence on the animal economy. Divest lightning of its combustible and explosive properties, and is it good or bad for anything? If other words, is electricity pure and simple, a vitalising or devitalising agent? This was in part answered in the affirmative by the researches we have alluded to. We say in part, because, after all, galvanism and magnetism, though they have something in common with electricity, are not necessarily the thing. A recent occurrence seems to set the matter at rest. The Wolverhampton correspondent of the *Times* reports that

"during the heavy thunderstorm of Tuesday, July 17, a collier named Bates, who had lost his sight through an accident, was being led home, when a flash of lightning was reflected on the spectacles he was wearing to conceal his disfigurement. After the peal of thunder which followed he complained of pain in his head. The next moment, to his surprise, he found that he had regained possession of his eyesight."

We quote we do not know at what (we wish we could say *whatt*) hand, not having seen the *Times* ourself. The date of the thunderstorm must be a mistake—unless the passage, which we noticed many weeks back in the papers, had been exhumed lately from the *Times* of last or any preceding year. We think we may safely accept the genuineness of the passage and the truth of the relation. The account is circumstantial, and the circumstances are *vraisemblant*. The fact mentioned is, beyond doubt, of the highest import. It has not only a speculative interest but also a practical suggestiveness of great value. It opens a hope to suffering humanity, in a direction in which "Despair" is placarded. The eyeless Milton, under his tragic deprivation, had, doubtless, in the depths of his soul, consolations unavailable to ordinary humanity. Nevertheless, the scholar and patriot bard groaned the groan of his fellow victims of commoner clay, in immortal verse:

Thus with the year

Seasons return; but not to me returns
Day or the sweet approach of even or morn,
Or sight of vernal bloom, or summer's rose,
Or flocks, or herds, or human face divine;
But cloud instead, and everduring dark
Surrounds me, from the cheerful ways of men
Cut off, and for the book of knowledge fair
Presented with a universal blank
Of nature's works, to me expunged and rased,
And wisdom at one entrance quite shut out.

If the ages to come should be fortunate enough in producing their Miltons, they will probably be pained the pathetic

spectacle painted with such painful vividness by the great
tan Bard himself :

but chief of all,
O loss of sight, of thee I most complain !
Blind among enemies, O worse than chains,
Dungeon, or beggary, or decrepit age !
Light, the prime work of God, to me is extinct,
And all her various objects of delight
Annul'd, which might in part my grief have eased,
Inferiour to the vilest now become
Of man or worm ; the vilest here excel me :
They creep, yet see ; I, dark in light, exposed
To daily fraud, contempt, abuse, and wrong,
Within doors or without, still as a fool,
In power of others, never in my own ;
Scarce half I seem to live, dead more than half.
O dark, dark, dark, amid the blaze of noon,
Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse
Without all hope of day !
O first-created Beam, and thou great Word,
" Let there be light, and light was over all ;"
Why am I thus bereaved thy prime decree ?
The sun to me is dark
And silent as the moon,
When she deserts the night,
Hid in her vacant interlunar cave.
Since light so necessary is to life,
And almost life itself, if it be true
That light is in the soul,
She all in every part ; why was the sight
To such a tender ball as the eye confined,
So obvious and so easy to be quench'd ?
And not, as feeling, through all parts diffused,
That she might look at will through every pore ?
Then had I not been thus exiled from light,
As in the land of darkness, yet in light,
To live a life half dead, a living death,
And buried ; but, O yet more miserable !
My self my sepulchre, a moving grave ;
Buried, yet not exempt,
By privilege of death and burial,
From worst of other evils, pains and wrongs ;
But made hereby obnoxious more
To all the miseries of life,
Life in captivity
Among inhuman foes.

Between the progress of ophthalmic surgery and the discoveries of electric medicine, blindness—absolute stone blindness—will be reduced to the category of the curable, to a disease, more difficult of mastery perhaps, but not more formidable than simple fever. It will be remarked that the man who got back his sight in the thunderstorm had lost it by an accident. That is a form of blindness which is now absolutely beyond medical interference.

ORIGINAL PUBLIC INTELLIGENCE.

COMPLETE LIST OF

Life Pensions to Servants of the late King of Oudh.

	Rs.	A.
Saiyid Muhammad Hussain Munsarim-ud-daula Bahadoor, Chief Manager and Superintendent	500	0
Saiyid Sajjad Hussain Ali, Zulfikar-ud-daula Bahadoor, Officer	300	0
Saiyid Abdul Ali, Amanut-ud-daula Bahadoor, Chief Bakshi or Paymaster	100	0
Kazim Ali Khan, Alik-ud-daula Bahadoor, Officer	94	0
Saiyid Shuja Hussain, Raihem-ud-daula Bahadoor, Officer	87	0
Ramzan Ali Beg, Munshi-us-Sultan, Head of the Daftar	87	0
Maulvi Kamr-ud-din Ahmed, Officer	85	0
Chotay Khan, Anis-ud-daula Bahadoor, Aide-de-Camp	50	0
Sikandar Ali Beg, Khazim-ud-daula Bahadoor, Officer attached to the Treasury	50	0
Saiyid Hamid Ali, Hamid-ud-daula Bahadoor, Officer	13	0
Saiyid Mahmed Ali, Hamid-ud-daula Bahadoor, Officer	26	0
Saiyid Zaki Hussain, Zaki-ud-daula Bahadoor, Aide-de-Camp	25	0
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Askari Begam, Majhli Begam, and Alia Begam, daughters of Juia Begam, Do.	7	0
Zainub Khanum, Do.	6	0
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Muhammad Razi, Karamut-ud-daula, Son of late Rifat-ud-daula Bahadoor	15	0
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Munshi Ahmed Bakhsh Do	15	0
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Salar Bakhsh, Jamadar of Police	7	0
Sahib Yar Khan, Jamadar of Sepoys	6	9
Mirza Bahadoor Ali Hy, Do	6	9
Kasim Ali, Sepoy	6	0
Wali Khan, Do	6	0
Torab Khan Do	6	0
Mir Nowroz Ali, Naib Jamadar of Sepoys	7	0
Fida Husain, Jamadar of Sepoys	6	9
Ahmed Ali Khan, Do	6	9
Mahbub Khan, Sepoy	6	0
Najju Khan, Do	6	0
Kadr Ali, Do	6	0
Sadul Khan, Do	6	0
Husain Ali, Mirdaha or Head Chobdar	8	12
Mir Imdad Ali, Chobdar	6	0
Radhay, Jamadar of Harkaras	7	0
Kullu, Harkara	6	0
Shamsher Khan, Harkara	6	0
Husain Ali, Khawas Do.	10	0
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Karim Bakhsh, Barber	7	0
Amjad Khan, Cook	7	8
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Mehdi Ali Khan, Do.	9	0
Iwaz Ali Beg Do.	8	0
Lal Khan, Dust kash	6	9
Aman Ali, Do.	6	0
Mir Iwaz Ali, Havildar of Janwarbazes	17	0
Bhullan Khan Do.	8	0
Ahmed Beg, Do.	8	0
Haji Karim, Do.	7	8
Muhammad Baksh, Do.	11	0
Akbar Ali, Jamadar of Mahiparwars	15	0
Wahid Ali, Mahiparwar	6	0
Shaik Shabrati, Do.	6	0
Mir Havildar Ali, Patangbaz	8	0
Hasan Baksh, Coachman	10	0
Ali Baksh, Treasury Chaprasi	6	0
Imam Baksh, Kahar	6	9
Gholam Ammina, Carpenter	10	0
Jialal, Tent-maker	13	0
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Mohan, gardener	5	0
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Merza Asghar Ali, Wardrobe man	8	0
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Mobarak Kuli, Chela	7	8
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Haji Hinga, Native Surgeon	10	0
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THE BARRACKPORE MAGISTRACY.

A counter memorial got up by the friends and admirers of Colonel Hopkinson is being signed for presentation to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. I would not stop to characterise the way in which the signatures are being obtained. The memorialists take their stand upon the popularity of the Colonel! The word popularity is so very wide in its signification, that some people, without fear of being stoned, may apply it to the Mosleys and the Kirkwoods. Mr. Editor, I will point out some proceedings of the gallant Colonel which will conclusively show that Colonel Hopkinson is not what he is represented by his friends and admirers. This amateur magistrate ordered a boy to be twice whipped for

one and the same offence, because forsooth the child did not cry at the time of the first infliction. On another occasion this magistrate ordered a three-legged calf to be shot, but this atrocious outrage on the Hindu religion was avoided, because a large number of Hindus, headed by Dabce Persaud, a friend of his, begged of the Colonel to spare its life. The calf was given away to Dabce and eventually it was restored to its rightful owner, when he threatened a suit for damages. Then again the magistrate got one Bidumoney Dassce, a Hindu widow, the relict of a native physician, arrested and ordered her to be medically examined under the provisions of the C. D. Act. The woman, rather than submit to this indignity, heroically fled from the Lock Hospital where she was consigned for compulsory medical examination, and moved the High Court. The latter quashed the illegal proceedings of the magistrate and ordered a new trial. The woman was again convicted and ordered to present herself for medical examination. Immediately this order was passed, she applied for copies and instructed her counsel to move the High Court, when the magistrate came to a compromise and removed her name from the list of women of the town. In another case, a native servant of a European officer filed a plaint against his former master for arrears of pay, the Colonel rejected the plaint in that his master's gold buttons had been lost through the plaintiff's negligence. Now, Mr. Editor, I should like to know how could the Colonel know about the loss of the gold buttons, unless he is a thought-reader. In another case, one Nitto Bewah brought a charge of outraging her modesty against a relative of Ramanath Dey, an Honorary Magistrate and a friend of the magistrate, who drew up a charge against the accused. Babu Ramanath came to Court and deposed before the magistrate that the father of the girl came to him and confessed that the case was false and got up by some persons in the village; wherefore the magistrate dismissed the case and went out of his way to abuse the so called instigators in his judgment. Every tyro in law knows that the statement of Romanath was no evidence, but what does that matter? this Daniel is a law unto himself. Mr. Editor, I do not like to multiply instances to show that Hopkinson is not what he is being represented by his friends, but I would invoke your assistance to call for a list of cases reversed by the appellate courts, which will no doubt show that the hero of Barrackpore is no hero to his valets who now pretend to worship him.

Barrackpore.

JUSTITIA.

To the Editor.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paralied. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "It's serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dingers and champagne pull in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1888.

} No. 341

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

ON DEAFNESS.

I SIT in silence—to my ear, there comes no sound of words,
No children's ringing laugh I hear, nor joyous song of birds—
I see the warblers on the wing and children sporting round,
But to my deadened ear they bring no sweet and welcome sound.

I walk in silence—tho' I know that ev'ry flow'r or tree
Is vocal with the music sweet, of bird and humming bee—
I see the fields of waving corn stirred by the summer breeze,
But still to me no sound is borne from flowers, or fields, or trees.

Each day I see around our board my friends their places fill—
I see my mother ask of God a blessing on each meal ;
But yet no word I ever hear of that familiar prayer,
And not a sentence greets my ear from all assembled there.

Although to church, on Sabbath days, I duly still repair,
To offer there my sacrifice of humble praise and prayer,
To me through all that blest abode unbroken silence reigns,
Silent to me the word of God—silent the sacred strains.

To me the streams in silence flow, the distant sea to join,
There's music in their waves I know, to every ear but mine,
I watch the billows as they reach and break upon the shore,
Yet though I stand upon the beach, I hear their sound no more.

To me the storm in silence roar—the threatening clouds I see,
But though the rain in torrents pours, it brings no sound to me—
I see the trees by tempest riven, its gathering force I feel,
Behold the angry flash of heav'n, yet hear no answering peal.

Alas ! to me all nature's voice is now for ever mute,
And ne'er again may I rejoice in sound of song or lute—
Yet still doth faithful mem'ry bring the sweet melodious lays,
I heard my loved companion sing in earlier, happier days.

Oh would that I could hear once more the charming sound of words,
The music of the winds and waves, and melody of birds—
Could hear the Sabbath bell again sound from the house of prayer,
And join in every sacred strain with those who worship there.

A. G. M.

PERSEVERANCE.

A swallow in the Spring,
Came to our granary, and beneath the eaves
Reared her nest, and there did bring
Wet mud and straw and leaves.

Day after day she toiled,
With patient art, but ere her work was crowned
Some sad mishap the tiny fabric spoiled,
And dashed it to the ground.

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She found the ruin wrought,
But not cast down, forth from the place she flew,
And with her mate, fresh earth and grasses brought,
And built her nest anew.

But scarcely has she placed
The last soft feather on its ample floor,
When wicked hand, or chance, again laid waste,
And wrought the ruin o'er.

But still her heart she kept,
And toiled again ;—and last night, hearing calls,
I looked, and lo ! three little swallows slept
Within the earth-made walls.

What truth is here, O Man !
Hath Hope been smitten in its early dawn ?
Have clouds o'ercast thy purpose, trust or plan ?
Have Faith, and struggle on !

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

ERRATA.—By a truly diabolical trick last week, our exclamation "A dear solicitor !" was suffixed to the first of the two Notes on the Calcutta Municipality, instead of, as we intended, the next following. Our readers will please read it as coming at the end of the second paragraph.

In col. 1, p. 428, line 5, *for* retained *read* restrained (.)

In turning over our file, we notice, p. 411, col. 1, 9th line from the bottom, a *z* wanting to the second syllable of the italicised word.

MR. A. C. CURTIS, Ting Ling Tea estate, Pahighatta, has perpetrated on our contemporary of the *Englishman* a conjurer's trick. He sent the editor a prodigious egg of a Muscovy duck—which proved the equine egg of the Bengali proverb. In the ordinary course, the egg was sent to the kitchen to be boiled. In the process, the shell burst and discovered a second perfect egg in another shell. The first had "no yoke but only glare"—whatever that may mean or be worth.

NUDEA is this year again under water. It occurred thiswise :—

"On the 2nd September Navadwipa witnessed a scene which will not soon be forgotten. At about 12 P.M., the bunds, with which the town is encircled, gave way, and within an hour or so it was inundated, no dry land being visible. Most of the inhabitants had sat down to take their meals, when the rush of water drove them out. They naturally ran towards the bund and did everything in their power to temporarily stop the breach, but all to no purpose. The poor are suffering a great deal, and if this state of things continues any longer, the results will be disastrous. Everything is selling at an exorbitant price, such as very few can afford to pay. No one can go out but in a boat, and the people are living in a state of suspense. The breaking of the bunds this year is entirely due to the unwise neglect of our municipality. If after the floods of 1885 it had kept an eye on the embankment, our little town would not have met with this misfortune. Most of the commissioners, including the chairman and the vice-chairman, are away from here practising in the courts at Krishnagur, and we are therefore left helpless."

WHILE the late rains have flooded the Bengal Presidency all through, the necessary seasonable showers have been withheld from the Western Presidency and the Deccan. There is grave anxiety in consequence in those parts. In Poona, distress has already manifested itself in a form and to an extent to necessitate prompt measures. The Collector has opened relief-works.

A TELEGRAM of the 7th September from Washington reports that the United States Senate has passed the Bill, already passed by Congress, forbidding the return of Chinese after once leaving the United States, and cancelling all tickets of identity. The United States Minister at Peking has telegraphed to President Cleveland that China has postponed coming to any decision in reference to the treaty for excluding Chinese emigrants from the States, and will deliberate further on the matter.

THE unfortunate women who abound in London, are just now under a special prejudice. Four of this class have been successively savagely murdered in Whitechapel, two having been found in the streets with their throats cut and disembowelled. The crimes are believed to have been committed by a maniac. The police have as yet made no arrests.

THE House of Representatives has passed the Bill granting powers for making reprisals on Canada asked for by President Cleveland.

THE "Patriotic Fleet" lately celebrated its tenth anniversary. It came into existence in 1878—to develop the maritime resources of Russia and to aid the Government in times of war. It was started by national subscription. The wealthiest nobles all subscribed, the fund raised being four million roubles. It began with three steamers. Now six ocean-going vessels of fair speed forming the fleet are principally employed in the trade or transports between the Black Sea and Vladivostock. They always carry their armament in the holds. The fleet now receives a subsidy from Government.

THE Maharanee of Searsole has accused of bribery Baboo Hari Churn Banerjee, Sub-inspector of police, Raneeunge, and the charge is being heard by Mr. Streetfield, the Magistrate.

HERE is a precious pluralist, religious and connubial, at Moonshee-gunj, in the *Statesman's* newsletter from that station:—

"There is an interesting case pending before the 2nd Moonsif. One Monoranjan Gangooli, first a Hindu, a Brahman, then a Christian, and now a Mahomedan, sued to recover one of his Brahman wives. At the very outset a warrant of arrest against his wife was prayed for before judgment, but the prayer was disallowed. The case has been adjourned."

THE same letter has the following notice of a lightning accident:—

"A brazier while on board a country boat in a canal close to this place was killed by lightning at about 1 P.M., on Sunday last. Some copper coin wrapped in cloth round the waist of the deceased were found melted into a lump of copper. The boat sank, but two persons who were in it were providentially saved."

THE legal sensation in Berhampore is a forgery in Court—is not open Court:—

"A daring forgery has come to the notice of the public which occurred in the Sub-judge's court. Rai Dhunput Sing Bahadoor, complainant, filed a suit against one Ram Chunder, a medical practitioner of Moorsshedabad, for Rs. 10,000, on a deed which has been properly registered. There was a certain landed property mortgaged, and from the income of that property the debt was to have been cleared off. When the document was filed the court did not happen to see the back of the deed. But on Monday last, it was found that an entry had been made of the payment of the sum. The writing seems to be a suspicious one, and to have been written with fresh ink, whereas the date given is upwards of three years ago. Besides, a year ago, this document was admitted in the Calcutta High Court and a true printed copy of it lies in our Judge's court which does not show any endorsement at the back. The complainant has cited 24 witnesses to prove his case, who are all very respectable persons."

LINNVILLE COMBS, aged 11 years, weighing 70 lbs and upwards, of four feet high, of Breathitt County, has been consigned to the Frankfort penitentiary, Kentucky, for sororicide. He murdered his sister Nannie Belle Combs, not quite three years of age, because "Samps Collins told me he'd give me a pair of boots and suspenders if I'd do it." When questioned how he did it, he artlessly narrated "She was just

walking along the floor, and I hit her in the head with a skillet. She fell over into the fire, but she was dead already. I pulled her out of the fire, and threw her into the creek." Next, when the body floated and he was informed of it, he drew the body ashore, and it was interred. The matter might have been hushed up, but the ingenuous murderer himself went about relating his feat of devilry, until he was arrested in a month's time, and after trial found guilty on his own admission, and sentenced. There was no Woodroffe to help to send this precocious imp back to society.

THE Chinese in Mauritius number about 4,000, and they are on the increase. That is everywhere their "dark way."

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY resumes the governorship of Mauritius in November, leaving England on the 30th October next.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR A. ALISON has succeeded General Foster in the India Council.

FRANCE has at last awakened to the barbarity of duel. A Bill for abolishing the practice has been introduced in the Chamber of Deputies.

A NEW play called the "Mahomet" by M. Henri de Bornier will be played in Paris next winter.

MR. STONEY, the district engineer, Burdwan, will be succeeded by Baboo Bidhu Sekhar Banerjee, the Supervisor.

SIR EDWARD WATKIN, M.P., the chief promoter of the Channel Tunnel and railway scheme, is expected in India in the winter.

DR. RIBBENTORP has returned to Simla from Burmah, where he went on special duty, in connection with the leasing of the Upper Burmah forests.

THE commercial residents of Cawnpore at a meeting have decided upon a Chamber of Commerce for that commercial town.

MR. JUSTICE WILSON of the Calcutta High Court, and not Mr. Justice Bayley of the Bombay High Court, will be the President of the Crawford Commission, which meet at Poona.

THE Home remittances from the 1st April to 8th September, 1888, amounted to £5,653,000. The Budget estimate for the whole year is £14,000,000.

THE Cape Parliament has passed a bill authorising payment of fifteen shillings a day to members during the Session. The Transvaal Republic pays the members of the Volksraad at the rate of three pounds a day.

MR. HENRY VIZETELLY, publisher of Henrietta Street, is being prosecuted for publishing translations of Zola. The Bow-street Magistrate has sent up the case, at request, to the Central Criminal Court instead of to the sessions.

THE Sessions Judge Mr. Forbes has reduced the sentence on the editor of the *Hyderabad Record* from six months' simple imprisonment to seven days' and a fine of Rs. 500, in default another month. Mr. Solomon has petitioned the Resident for stay of execution for an appeal to the local High Court.

THE *Eastern Herald* says that it is believed that 9 out of the 39 candidates at the Holkar Durbar Pledership Examination have passed. The small number of successful candidates is accounted for by a sudden change of rule, by which examinees must obtain 33 per cent. marks in each of the four subjects, instead of, as hitherto, 33 on the aggregate of marks.

THE same paper reports the sudden death, on the 17th August, of Dewan Chaturbhuj Sehai of the Chhatarpur State. Munshi Chaturbhuj was British Deputy Collector when, less than two years ago, he was appointed manager of the Native State.

THE largest steamer next to the *Great Eastern* is *The City of New York*. She forms one of the Inman and International Steam-ship Company's fleet, is 565 ft. long, 65 ft. broad and 44 ft. deep, is 10,500 gross tonnage and can accommodate 2,000 passengers. The engines are capable of 20,000 horse power or double that of the *Great Eastern*. She is fitted with the electric light.

THE *Indian Spectator* quotes, from a Scotch county paper, some notices of the family of Sir William Wedderburn, retired Bombay Civil Service, now the Liberal candidate elect for North Ayrshire. The surname of the family is derived from a place in Berwickshire. Its importance dates from Walter de Wedderburn "who swore fealty to Edward I. at Berwyck Sur Twed." The first who came to India was the first Sir William, father of the present Sir William. He too was of the Civil Service and was Accountant-General of Bombay.

"His eldest son, Mr. John Wedderburn, who was also in the Civil Service of India, was killed at Hissar in North India, his devoted wife and their child sharing the same fate. This was during the dark days of the Munity, but far from embittering the family, the event seems to have attached them the more to this unhappy country. Sir John's second son was David, our Sir David Wedderburn, who, though he had little to do directly with India, was yet one of her warmest friends in and out of Parliament. Most of our readers must have seen him at Bombay—a delicate-looking studious man, but with a keen sense of justice and an indomitable will."

THE Hunmant Rao prosecution has entered the second stage. The defence has begun. The principal witness Mr. Crawford has been examined and cross-examined. In examination-in-chief, he denied all imputations against himself in the case. In cross-examination, he deposed that

"he first met Hunmantrao in the village of Bijapore, where there had been a flood. This was in 1883. He had raised subscriptions in Bombay, and went to Bijapore to see the relief works. The accused was a prominent citizen, and made a good impression on Mr. Crawford, who had known his uncle and grandfather, the latter a distinguished Government servant. When Mr. Crawford came to Poona, the accused was there. They became intimate. 'And how did he come to be employed by you at the time, as was notorious?' 'I was in debt, and aware he knew Marwaris and local money-lenders, and I got him to negotiate loans and pay instalments. I employed him as my broker. I had no other business transactions with him, but once set him to get information for me, suspecting B.G. Sathe of corruption.' He said he had had eight or ten loans from Marwaris, and as many renewals. 'What did Hunmantrao get for this?' 'Nothing from me; the usual brokerage from the Marwaris, I suppose.' 'Why did you get him to do this business for you?' 'I was aware he knew Marwaris, and knew for a fact that he had acted in connection with Colonel Stopford's affairs.' 'What was he to have for helping you in the Sathe business?' 'Nothing.' 'What prompted him to act for you?' 'Personal animosity against Sathe, and personal friendship for me.' Mr. Crawford said he did not know Dabir was placed over the head of a qualified aval karkhoon. He admitted in one case acting contrary to the Collector's recommendations, and without consulting the Acting Collector; but stated that he was justified in so doing. Dabir's appointment was due to an error and neglect in the office to make up the list.

Mr. Crawford cancelled Sindekar's transfer to Jowli, on account of the statement he made in a petition, to the effect that his wife was ill, and about to be confined, and he could neither remove her with him, nor leave her in charge of anybody else. He was not aware that the woman had at that time been actually confined at the house of his father-in-law, and in another town altogether. How could he divine that the man was lying? He made no enquiry into the matter. He considered the domestic troubles of Sindekar a sufficient justification for the temporary cancellation of his transfer; temporary was all he agreed to, as the season was late, and he saw no reason why he should not defer it till after the rains. Questioned as to his personal financial position, he admitted his embarrassments from the time of his appointment to the Commissionership; that his income was hypothecated, and was being drawn by King, King and Co.; Rs. 1,700 per month were allowed him. He banked with the Kings and the French Bank. He had no current account with the French Bank, and only three rupees in the bank book which was lost. He repeated that Sathe was adversely disposed towards him, and he believed Sathe's visit to him, and the monetary assistance given him shortly before his suspension, was only a plan to enable Mr. Nugent to see it. He admitted having disappeared in disguise from Poona, and having endeavoured to get a passage on the steamer *Teheran*, and he dare say he did write that letter to his brother, stating that he was going to drown himself in the river; but he said that, at that time, he was not responsible for his actions, and was not in his right mind, and was not responsible from 14th to 20th July. He became responsible again after that date. During the cross-examination, it also transpired that, on his return, the survey settlement officer of Chopda stated that the Commissioner had recently visited his taluka; he now denied having ever been there, though the draft book revealed an entry in his own writing; he explained he must have written 'taluka' for 'district.'

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

GENERAL BOULANGER has turned up in Christiana.

THE telegraph announces the death of Richard Anthony Proctor, the astronomer, who had done so much to popularise correct knowledge, not of astronomy alone.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY, on completion of his seasonal tours, reached Darjeeling yesterday. There was a large gathering at the railway station to receive the Lieutenant-Governor.—The last Tour was not without its accidents. At Mymensing, the steam launch crushed to death a native boy swimming. The poor parents were humanely paid Rs. 300. Another man escaped with an injury.

WE are glad to see the Hon'ble S. Subramania Iyer appointed Government Pleader, during the absence on leave of Mr. Powell. This is the first time that a native has been allowed the distinction, and it has properly fallen on the Hon'ble pleader of the Madras High Court.

THE New Club at Simla has been destroyed by fire. The house was insured for Rs. 40,000. Most of the furniture was saved. The New Club will now have a new home. The nasty and dangerous kerosine was the cause of the fire, by the upturning of a lighted lamp.

WE are told—

"The latest fad of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar has been the electric light. An engine, with all the necessary apparatus, arrived from Bombay about two months ago, and a considerable portion of the lamps, &c., had been erected, when suddenly H. H. stopped the work. So the whole of the plant has been taken up and returned to Bombay, the Maharaja agreeing to pay ten thousand rupees for this little freak. We believe there is some talk of the Gaekwar also going in for electric lights. Let us hope they will succeed better at Baroda than they seem to have done at Indore."

We cannot join in the hope. The electric light is an abomination, and we are not sure that it may not turn out dangerous on a large scale. It must tend to general blindness.

THE noticeable river accident of the week is the loss of the ferry steamer *Ostrich*, plying between Kailahghat, Calcutta, and Telkalghat, Howrah. She had landed some two hundred passengers at Calcutta and was returning to Howrah with about one-fourth of that number, it is said. When in mid stream she collided with the Port Commissioners' floating crane *Hercules* and sank in two minutes. A few passengers jumped over into the crane and some were rescued from the river. The actual number dead and drowned is not known nor is ever likely to be known. The rumour however ran that about 200 lives were lost. According to the Police report, 32 persons have been saved and only 8 lives lost. The following statements have been made by the Serang of the *Ostrich* and the engineer in charge of the crane.

"Joomonati Serang says—I am serang of the steamer *Ostrich*. I left the police ghaut landing stage at about 10 A. M. with about 40 passengers, and 9 crew, and one sircar on board. The ebb tide was running very strong. I steamed head up the river to the outer buoy off No. 7 Jetty, when I saw a large boiler floating down the river close to the buoy. I shifted my helm to port, and thus allowed the boiler to clear me on the Starboard. In doing so, the steamer was thrown across the tide, and just then she was struck by the 30 ton crane vessel on the port quarter. My vessel at once went down, and the passengers and crew were all thrown into the river.

Mr. F. W. Arnfield, engineer in charge of the 30 ton crane, states—I was alongside the *S. S. Professor*, at No. 4 Jetty moorings. I lifted out a large iron boiler for the vessel, and lowered it into the river, where it was taken charge of by the Bowreah Mills steam launch. I saw the launch tow the boiler up stream, and I breasted out from No. 4 Jetty moorings to mid stream and dropped down stern foremost, or head to tide, to Kola Ghaut, intending to go alongside the *S. S. Clan Macgregor*, lying at No. 8 Jetty moorings. I then saw the boiler I had lifted out of the *S. S. Professor*, and which had been taken in tow by the steam launch, adrift, and floating down the river in a line with my starboard bow. Just at this time the steam ferry *Ostrich*, which was crossing the river, was swept by the tide, and her port quarter collided with my bow, and she sank at once. My vessel was at a stand-still at this time, and we rescued 16 of the passengers."

LAST Saturday, one Englebrecht suffering from hernia and piles repaired to the Medical College hospital. He was admitted, to be operated upon. The preparatory chloroform was a little too freely administered, a circumstance which the operating surgeon did not detect till he had commenced his work. It was then too late, neither the galvanic battery nor any artificial respiration could bring back life. This is not

the first instance of the kind. Medical manslaughter is a common enough incident in Hospital practice. Their license gives the Order of Sts. Louis and Cosme practical immunity for all their omissions and commissions. Will not the Lieutenant-Governor inquire? Or, will the surgeons be left to continue the reform of vengeance inaugurated in another *regime* and complete the popular horror of Hospitals?

AFTER all, the Mission to Cabul is not to be—for the present at any rate. When everything was ready for the start, there came sudden qualms of conscience at the British Durbar—fears of the brave, if not follies of the wise. The British are never welcome in Cabul; yet they have somehow a strange fascination for the place. In spite of repeated warnings, they again and again go there, to bleed—in every way. The passion had again seized our rulers, and nothing, we thought, would prevent them from satisfying it. At the eleventh hour, however, wiser counsels prevailed. It was recognised that just now the Afghan country might be found more than ordinarily unsafe. The Ameer has patched up a peace with the Shinwaris, and the Commander-in-Chief General Gholam Hyder is free to return with the troops in the field to the capital. But a new and worse danger has appeared in the North, in the revolt of Ishak Khan, Governor of Turkestan. As Ishak is a cousin of Abdur Rahman's and is understood to have supporters in Cabul and at the capital, it was not considered prudent to add to the already combustible elements of the Afghan metropolis, by sending a large British party.

"A PUNJABI" writes to the *Civil and Military Gazette* :—

"Passing through the Mundi State *en route* from Kulu and the north. I was told by many Mahomedans of the treatment they had received on the occasion of the death of the mother of the Raja of Mundi. Every Mahomedan in the State was forced to shave his beard. Those who refused were ill-treated, seized and their beards cut forcibly. Two men, Kamran, Pathan, and Sumdu, Kashmiri, the latter a Moulvi and religious head of the Mundi Mahomedans, were by the Raja's express order seized, their beards burnt off with oil and gunpowder, and imprisoned, and I am told there were other similar cases."

The Panjab has always been the Indian Province notorious for inter-religious animosities and persecution. There is no inherent improbability in this correspondent's account. These Hill Hindus and their princelings are given to strange pranks. We only wonder their people, Hindus or Mahomedans or Buddhists, submit themselves so meekly. We hope this Mundi man will be called to account for at any rate the outrageous lengths to which he carried out his "domestic institution" of enforced popular mourning for the death of the Rani Dowager. Such persecution, always unrighteous, is more than ever impolitic at the present time. We are afraid that this Mundi revelation may be seized by Party for political capital.

WE are shocked to hear of the conduct of the new Governor of Cashmere. This briefless barrister, Pandit Surajbal, D.C.L., is an A S S, without either loyalty or gratitude or manners. Like many another waif from India, he must have kept the lowest company in London. He is familiar with all the ignorant and indecent tittle-tattle of Babylon. At a state dinner at Jummoo on the Maharaja's birthday, he, in proposing His Highness's health, went out of his way to abuse Her Majesty the Queen and make atrocious insinuations against her and John Brown.

The *Pioneer* first gave the account and the *Civil and Military Gazette* follows up as follows :—

"A contemporary gives publicity to a story which attributes some atrocious remarks regarding Her Majesty to Dr. Suraj Bal, now in high favor at Cashmere. We had ourselves received the story, but gave it neither publicity nor credence. Our contemporary, however, appears to have received confirmation of the facts stated, and performs an unpleasant duty in bringing them to light. The remarks were made at a dinner by way of pointing an allusion to the well-known 'habits' of the Maharajah of Cashmere; and if Suraj Bal is wise, he will in future avoid the company of Englishmen, and we trust, of such Natives as regard Her Majesty with the reverence which a good and pure-lived Queen deserves from her faithful subjects. We would like to hear, meanwhile, what action Prince Amar Singh has taken in the matter.

In connection with the unpleasant matter mentioned above, a well-informed correspondent writes :—'There have been intrigues going on at Jummoo to oust Suraj Bal from his appointment, and for either the present Financial Minister of the Council, Dewan Janki Pershad, or his uncle Dewan Budri Nath, to succeed him; and I am not astonished at Suraj Bal doing as he did to try and get a stronger hold upon the Maharajah, to retain him in his appointment as Governor of Cashmere. I can, however, tell you as a fact, that some years ago I was personally present at a party in the Nashut Bagh in Cashmere, and other officers were also present. Suraj Bal was then one of the Judges of Cashmere, and on this occasion

presided at the dinner table, and when it came to the proposing of healths, Suraj Bal put Her Majesty the Queen aside, and proposed the health of the Maharaja in most fulsome terms of flattery. His rudeness in ignoring to drink the health of Her Majesty first, was so very marked, that an officer, whose name I at this moment forget started up and called Suraj Bal to order; but instead of doing so, he became insulting and there was a dreadful row. The officer finally requested Suraj Bal to grant an apology, or the following morning he would chastise him publicly. Suraj Bal had to grant the apology. I know also that he is utterly disrespectful in his language generally to the Government; and, under existing circumstances at Jummoo, he will not hesitate to speak language which he thinks may give pleasure to the Durbar, who bitterly hate the Government of India and all things English. What I have said about Suraj Bal's conduct at the Nashut Bagh dinner party cannot be denied.'

The outrage is so great that the Foreign Office can scarcely overlook it. The Maharaja himself should be the first to call upon his servant for explanation. If the allegation is true, the amplest reparation should be promptly made to the Imperial Power.

THE *Pioneer* gives the following description of His Honour Doctor Suraj Bal :—

"He is a son of the late well-known Pundit Manphul, Mir Munshi attached to the Punjab Secretariat. Going home with a Lawrence scholarship, and after seven years at Oriel, he managed to stumble through his Bachelor's degree. Subsequently his University presented him with a D.C.L., which proved too much for him. Failing at the Lahore bar, he went to Cashmere as Judge of the Court there, and is now governor of a province."

It is not of such hot brained youth that Governors of Provinces are made.

JOBUT is a small Bheel State in Central India. During the minority of the Chief, it was managed by a Superintendent under the Bhopawar Agency, while the Chief himself was sent to the Daly College at Indore. After completing his term there, he has for sometime been joined in the administration with the Superintendent. He is now twenty-two years of age. Having completed his noviciate, it is natural that he should be desirous of being placed in independent charge of his own State. Rana Sarup Singh is reported to be a well educated young Chief, an accomplished cricketer, and fond of field sports, of active business habits and sufficient knowledge of affairs. We see no reason for deferring his installation.

A correspondent of the *Eastern Herald* points out that during the incumbency of Col. Miller, Political Agent, in 1882, the Chiefs of Bhakatgur and Nimkhera were promptly invested with the management of their respective chiefships.

FROM the Cashmere letter of the 20th August in the same paper, it appears the Maharaja's troops, more than eleven thousand in number in the neighbourhood of Gilgit, were awaiting His Highness's order to attack the rebels.

This is a queer arrangement. What did the State mean by massing such an army there if not to fight? How could the Maharaja command his troops from such a distance? He is no Carnot or Moltke, and there are no facilities for quick communication with his Northern frontiers.

THIS Correspondent's letter affords a good and, we may add, poor, specimen of the kind of complaints common to our newspapers. Thus we are told—

"Dewan Luchman Dass, the late Prime Minister of Kashmir State, who was forced upon his Highness the Maharaja by Mr. Plowden the Resident of Kashmir, had pleased his patron the Resident by purchasing from British Government Promissory Notes to the extent of Rupees twenty-five lacs, out of which the sum of Rupees eighteen lacs was paid down at once. Now the creature of the Resident is no longer in office; and although his Highness the Maharaja is not willing to purchase more Government loans, yet he is obliged to pay the balance Rupees seven lacs in order to fulfil the promise of his former Dewan."

And why not? If the State has entered into any agreement or given any pledge, it is but just that it should fulfil it. Wherein is the Zooloom of the British Government in all this? Our gentlemen of the press are never slow to come down with all their resources of reasoning and railery and indignation, whenever the British Government shows the slightest tendency to back out of its promises. And yet they are not ashamed to preach a different standard to the Native States. If the Maharaja of Cashmere has, under advice of his present minister, made up the balance of the twenty-five lacs he offered, under the advice of his late Dewan, to invest in the British Loan, he has done a proper thing, which will enhance his character and the reputation and credit of his Raj. Instead of making of the obligation a grievance, he should be en-

couraged to regard it as matter of course. If our Princes were to repudiate the acts of their ministers, or if one ministry were to cancel the engagements of another, matters would come to a pretty pass. In the present case, the Maharaja might, had he chosen, withhold the 7 lacs, but not with good grace. Seven lacs is a good round sum to Cashmere, but no great matter to India. It is a drop in the ocean of British Indian necessity. He had only to ask to be freed from paying in the balance. Our Government would not have suffered in the least. Cashmere's omission would no more have been perceived by John Bull than his prototype in the fable perceived the presence of the fly lodged on the point of his horn. Had the Viceroy been any way aware of the pecuniary difficulties of Cashmere, he would, we are persuaded, have himself relieved it of the embarrassment of making up the investment. Under the circumstances, it is ungenerous in us to talk as if the Maharaja had swallowed a big bolus under compulsion and only for British benefit.

THE *Advocate of India* is again looking up. It is a good paper and we rejoice in its prosperity. After its early triumph, it fell on evil times and, though conducted with as great ability, wisdom and spirit as ever, it did not meet with the necessary measure of support, although the enterprise and liberality of the proprietor (Mr. Anderson) and the ability, liberality, and prudence of the editor (Mr. Bailey) merited a rich reward. We cannot from this distance divine the cause or causes. Local jealousy was presumably at work, but we suspect that the dire offence of the paper was its moderation. It did not represent the fiery orators and Radical Reformers in Church and State. It criticised with freedom, but without violence, and often with a delicacy of thrust which must have been lost upon the general, however welcome it might be to cultivated men of mature years. In fine, the concern proved a misnomer. The *Advocate* was too much of the judge for the Native Bombay, in its present Political Revival. The enormous value of such a moderator between the Native Press and the European was not understood. The *Advocate* was allowed to languish. Subscribers and advertisers fell off, until it was constrained to reduce its size and double its price. At the same time, it was offered for sale. It has now passed from its original spirited owner to a new proprietor. There is an apparent diminution in the size, but a real increase in bulk. The literary department continues good, so far as the writing itself is concerned, but there is a visible lack of supervision. Thus we read:—

"Moola Mahomed, a Moogla, who superseded Moola Ismail for a short time as Royal customs farmer in Rangoon shortly before the outbreak of hostilities, has been awarded 1,23,000. An adjustment claim of 1,90,000 against the Burmese Government for monies advanced to them by the late Persian Consul has also been paid, and Rs. 9,000 out of a claim of Rs. 16,000 for jewellery supplied to Theebaw and his Queen."

We don't know what a Moogla is, but surely Rangoon was never a royal port in this generation.

The following, in the same number, reporting the recent lecture at Simla, is worse:—

"The lecturer expressed the opinion that good half-bred English stallions for were best Indian mares. This class of horse could not be got from Australia, and Arabs were too small."

A respectable paper ought to be better done up than that.

A CALCUTTA telegram to the *Morning Post* of Allahabad says:—

"Owing to the contents of Mr. Veasey's confidential Police Circular having been communicated to the Press, a special department has been created in the Office of the Inspector-General of Police, consisting of a Superintendent and a few European assistants. The post of Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police will merge in the new superintendentship. Mr. Tucker, Assistant District Superintendent of Police, will probably be the first incumbent."

That is in the usual way. Anything for an excuse for multiplying appointments! One would have thought that the rational thing to do, on the appearance of the Confidential Circular, was to find out the base man who supplied it to the tempter in the Editor—and punish him severely for grave misconduct. But no!—the wise men of the Circumlocution Office know better. They are a truly pious set, the rulers of the Departments and their Viziers, acting strictly according to canon. How they obey to the letter the scriptural command to increase and multiply! The offices of a Superintendent and a few Eu-

ropean Assistants have already been created; and the first Superintendent is named! Doubtless, the European Assistants have also been appointed.

It is true the traitor, who communicated the Circular to, and inspired the disturbing comments of, the Native Press, could not be discovered. So much the worse for the Department! What is the value of a Police that cannot maintain discipline within itself? How is the Department to trace crime in the community or the country at large, when it is not equal to detect its own black sheep? Its Chiefs could, no doubt, on a vague suspicion based on no circumstantial foundation, disturb the whole administration, by a wholesale massacre of clerks. Such a measure would have had a show of force, if not of reason, and heads of departments are naturally tempted to set themselves right with the Government and the public by action in this direction. The Inspector-General deserves great commendation for not perpetrating any such folly and injustice. Whatever the newspapers may think of him, Mr. Veasey, at any rate, is no Buckland of Zooloom.

The fact is, the Circular was ill timed. At such a period of excitement, anything of that kind was almost sure to be misunderstood in the Department and certain to be resented by the public. It might have been gradually introduced without irritation. But to sow an elaborate little Procedure of the kind broadcast throughout the Police in the country and expect it to be unknown to the people, because it was marked "Confidential," was preposterous. It could not possibly be kept secret. That was out of the question.

ACCORDING to the report of Acting Consul W. Holland—

"The smallest shopkeeper at Newchwang, is a banker, and is allowed to issue notes, against which he may have no cash or bullion as security. Unless, therefore, he happens to be a capitalist, or a trader with good credit, the smallest run upon him may involve bankruptcy. In that event, the principle of 'first come first served' is acted upon in honouring the obligations, as in selling goods across the counter, and the late applicants find themselves in possession of worthless paper. Foreigners, however, run no risk, since, if they hold notes of a bankrupt firm, the local authorities always exchange them for paper issued by solvent parties. It may be supposed that this free and easy system would lead to a good deal of fraud, but it is said not to do so. On the contrary bills are seldom dishonoured. Over-speculation is a frequent cause of failure among the Chinese, but deliberate fraud seldom occurs. It seems that wealthy bankers and mandarins, not caring for their wealth to be known, often make deposits with bankers without taking receipts. It may very well happen, therefore, that on the death of a depositor his heir may not know where to lay hands upon some of his money, which remains in the banker's hands. For the sake of greater secrecy a depositor will even forego interest on his money, which the banker is nevertheless able to employ to his own advantage."

So much for the American legend of the "Heathen Chinee"! It would be difficult to match such simple virtue as the Celestials possess out of Asia. Can it be said of the West, cis-Atlantic or trans-Atlantic, that "deliberate fraud seldom occurs"? Notwithstanding all the sanctions by which it is guarded—notwithstanding the weekly admonitions of the Church—notwithstanding the frowns of society and the terrors of the law—commercial morality in Christendom is, in many countries, a soiled dove. It is probably at its lowest in America, where dishonesty is scarcely under the necessity of assuming the disguise of honour and virtue. Fraud openly stalks the city in broad day. Great robbers are among the leading citizens and men of power as well as position. Confederacies of these men awe the legislature and rule the State. And it is here that the non-Christian or non-White has the least chance. It is among the unworthy Americans that Asiatics are to-day blackguarded and persecuted, as Africans heretofore were enslaved and scourged. It is a poet of California, who, speaking as the mouthpiece of the narrow trades-unionism of his fellow citizens, has consigned the respectable Mongolians to infamy in about the most popular American verse of the day, which begins and ends thiswise:—

Which I wish to remark,—

And my language is plain,—

That for ways that are dark

And for tricks that are vain,

The heathen Chinee is peculiar.

Such is the treatment of the East at the hands of the West!

IN another column will be found a letter from Patna which is worth attention, specially for the closing reflections. Our Correspondent is a most respectable member of the Mahomedan community, wellknown for ability. He wrote in a great hurry, as we happen to know. Never-

theless, he writes well. His matter is good, and he drives his point home and is thoroughly trustworthy in his facts, and sober in his views. When such a man complains that Mahomedan boys are going to the bad from too early political dissipation, after the manner of the Hindu lads in Calcutta and other towns, his community should take warning.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1888.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

THE SANITATION RUN AMOK AGAINST SERAMPORE.

DR. LIDDERDALE is evidently determined to galvanize his department into a new activity—into a power to be feared. Not that the Sanitary Department was without activity of a kind. In the person of its subordinate officers, it was always renowned for locomotion. It wrote a number of Inspection reports on a number of localities visited by them, and once a year these reports saw the light of publicity in a blue book of portentous bulk enough to justify its *raison d'être*. Dr. Lidderdale, it is true, was too fond of the breezes of Dareeling to descend to the insanitary plains except for short flying visits, but he evidently wrote a good deal, and saw that his Deputies did not neglect the work of inspection. At any rate, a flood of sanitary inspection notes and memoranda kept pouring in upon him, and he had no small ado to sift, compress and compile them into his Annual Report. The strangest part of the thing, however, was the character of these notes and memoranda. They bore such a family resemblance upon them that, were it not for the inevitable differences of the names of places and minor divergences of local conditions, they might well pass for the outturn of some mechanical contrivance—a kind of new mould for the special use of Sanitary Inspectors. They were so typical that reports of any two places were as two drops of water, in all essential respects. Some time ago, we transcribed in our columns specimens of these curious documents to show that we were perpetrating no exaggeration—no figure of speech, in our view. Indeed, looking at these productions, it was not too much to say that they might as well be manufactured in the recesses of their study, instead of a number of high paid officers scouring the country, at no small expense to the general funds of the State.

These Inspection reports were cast in the same mould. An analysis of one would serve for all. It was first a scientific examination of the soil of the locality, and a learned description of its physical aspect. Then followed an examination of the usual sanitary defects common to all Bengal villages and towns, the whole wound up with a string of suggestions for their improvement, embodying the highest ideal of the latest development of sanitary science. As to the defects, no ghost of a Sanitary Department was needed to point them out. Every body, not even the "barbarous" Hindu peasant excepting, was too well aware of them, and as strongly desirous as any sanatarian for their removal. But there was the stumbling block in the way—the question of ways and means. The impracticability of the Sanitary Department's ideal proposals has always been a matter of notoriety. Its word is—"thorough," but it curiously enough shuts its eyes to the practical side of the question. Officers of the Sanitary Department like Surgeon-Major Gupta, or Dr. French-Mullen, who

have, at intervals, officiated for Dr. Lidderdale, we confess, have shown more moderation and practical wisdom than usually characterize its proceedings, and its relations to other administrative departments. So far as we have heard reports of these two gentlemen, they fully appreciate the difficulties of the problem, and are satisfied that the progress of reform can only be gradual, and commensurate with the funds at our disposal. No practical considerations, however, seem to have any weight with the chief. His ideal standard of perfection must be conformed to—and this, not by throwing the work over a number of years, but at once. Dr. Lidderdale would not budge an inch, so that he has hitherto presented the amusing spectacle of year after year pressing the same ideal recommendations which no body was in a position to carry out. Even sober officials of the position of experienced District officers had come to regard the Sanitary Department's proposals as only meant for the ear to hear—not the hand to execute. Their extravagance neutralized even their legitimate effect, so that Inspection reports have hitherto been regarded as things which were to be read, and then forgotten for the next twelve months.

From Dr. Lidderdale's recent attack on the Serampore Municipality, it would seem the chief of the Sanitary Department has been touched to the quick by this attitude of general disregard. He is determined that Inspection reports should no longer be regarded as innocuous waste paper, and his fulminations as mere *brutum fulmen*. This might be creditable to the self-respect of Dr. Lidderdale himself, as well as to his proper regard for the honor of the Department over which he presides. He will be no mere ornamental figure-head any longer. But however creditable may be his resolve, it can only have a chance of success with the aid of that practical good sense the want of which has ruined its prestige in the past years. Traces of this practical good sense are, however, wholly undiscernible in Dr. Lidderdale's new manifesto. The municipality of Serampore, whatever its sanitary defects, may, for argument's sake, be assumed to be, is certainly in no worse state than municipalities in general. In fact, there is no municipality free from insanitary conditions which none, however, can regret more than the Municipal Commissioners themselves. They regret them keenly, and are doing all they can towards their gradual removal. This is the state of things everywhere, and there is no municipality under Lidderdale which will come up to his ideal standard of perfection. Why single out one municipality, then, and pour all the vials of your wrath upon it? Admitting Dr. Lidderdale's statement that the Commissioners have failed to carry out some of his suggestions made in his past report, all the responsibility which could justly attach to the municipality for this failure would be its omission to report the reasons which prevented their being carried out. Even this responsibility, however, it must be exonerated from. The judgment on this point must go against Dr. Lidderdale, from his past condonation of similar neglect on the part of people in general. So far as we know, sanitary recommendations nowhere meet with a different treatment, and Dr. Lidderdale would have acted like a wise man if, instead of resenting one single instance of disregard of his authority in inflammatory language, he had, in the usual course, issued a general circular laying it down as a rule that reports should be furnished to him wherever, from any causes, some of his actual suggestions could not be given effect to. This would

have saved his honor, and the municipalities would have set in motion another stream of correspondence to swell the flood of writing which has been all the tangible good the public have derived from the existence of his Department.

That Dr. Lidderdale should have gone out of his way to indulge in sarcasm against the scheme of Local Self-Government, is much to be regretted. It is hardly in keeping with the official position he holds, and we dare say he must be, in his cooler moments, regretting the language into which the heat of passion has betrayed him. But what are we to say of his insane recommendation to the Commissioners to displace a Chairman, who has so deep a hold on their confidence as to have been elected to that office successively for two terms? Who is the Sanitary Commissioner to make such proposal in an official capacity, through the medium of an official document? So far as the law is concerned, he has no legal *locus standi*, in his relations to municipalities. We really wonder how any man of years and experience could so far demean himself in the way he has done, in his infatuated fulmination against the Chairman of the Serampore Municipality. Is Local Self-Government come to this, that the honored leaders of our urban communities are to meet with such scant courtesy at the hands of any official inquisitors? The other day, a wretched clerk of a Local Auditor held language in respect of another Municipal Chairman for which he ought to have been sent back to a school of manners. Magistrates who are the legal controllers of our Municipal administration, are not often models of gentlemanly demeanour. Dr. Lidderdale, however, has surpassed all in the plain directness of his attack. It is high time the Government intervened. Its officers apparently do not learn from its own affability and courtesy; what could be more delicate, for instance, than Sir Steuart Bayley's allusion to the faction-fights of the Dacca Municipality? Here was the head of the Administration speaking on the same subject—the failure of Local Self-Government, but was he at all rude? Let Sir Steuart teach more plainly, and issue a pamphlet on etiquette for the benefit of his lieutenants.

THE HINDU SHRINE IN BELOOCHISTAN:

A BRAHMACHAREE'S ACCOUNT OF THE PILGRIMAGE.

[Concluded from page 392.]

THERE is little population on the way, only at a few places there are one or two poor sheds. At one of these, they secure a goat and carry it to the Devi. From a distance the temple of Hingláj is seen—a small house on a hill top again. Coming to it they find a small room indeed of unequal unhewn rough stones, with two doors in the front wall apart, with flat roofing of earth, the roof reached by a flight of steps from the outside. There is no human being there, nor habitation nor men nor beast in the surrounding country. At the foot of the hill, however, they had found a woman, the sole tenant of the place, a poor village Mussulmani, to kill their goat, which she jabbled of course. The Guide took the goat and poured it on the hill and broke on it a bottle of the grog they had brought from Kurrachee. They go up to the temple—*kapát*.

The small room has two doors in two corners of the front wall. The room was shut up from the outside by chains, but not locked. They do not open to see what was in. The Guide told those who had no objection to animal food and fermented or distilled beverages to dress and cook the meat of the goat brought up with them and drink of the remaining liquor in the possession of the party. All were in for it, except four of them, including the two Bengalis, Chandranand Brahmacharee (formerly Chandranath Roy, Srotiya, of Gwari Kishnagar) and Shama Charan

Ray of Satgachi. The majority joyfully dispersed, leaving the Baboos to cook their simple food and have their fill. It was soon over. In the evening, as the Guide told them, they took their seats outside around the temple and waited. There is no idol in the temple or about it. There is no worship or prayer at the place in particular. There is nothing to see or do in particular. So the two Bengali Baboos and another lounged before the temple at one place together. The Guide himself, soon after their arrival, had gone up to the roof. They were curious to learn what he was about. So, although they had been told not to stir out or about, but wait for the appearance of the Devi who came usually towards the latter part of the night, our informant raised his head and peeped. He saw the guide place on the floor of the roof a white cloth and then a red robe and on it female ornaments, cheap jewellery, vermillion, shell bracelets, a looking glass, combs, &c., &c., and mumbled something. All night they thus lay in wait for the manifestation. Not so with the braver souls. Their business of creature comforts would take more time. Again, as Shama Charan said, they must be drinking and making merry after dinner. Accordingly, they themselves might now go to sleep. By the time the bacchanalians might be disposed to go to sleep, they would awake and mount guard as it were. They had collected sticks from the jungle and lighted up several fires, for fear of wild beasts. So they went to sleep. The Guide had gone up on the top of the room, and, after cleaning the place with water from his *loti*, spread a white sheet, then a red cloth, and over it *churi*, *sanhla*, *sindur*, &c., and mumbled any mantras if he had such. During their sleep, he might have come down to take his food—his share of *chapatis* from the pilgrim brotherhood—or he had the bread brought up to the roof where he might have eaten. They don't know. He might have gone to sleep on the roof. He was a prudent man—it was a safe position in that night. It was a moonlit night. As the sounds of the orgies died away, our Bengalis got up and sat to listen to Shama Charan's stories. Towards the latter part of the night, they heard a sound like the humming of bees. Immediately, the Guide stood up on the roof and raised the alarm that the Devi was up, and they must get up and be ready. He descended and told all to hurry and bathe in the well. It has been related that at the last stream they crossed,—the *Aghori*—the Guide had told them to cut teeth-brushes from the low thistle and brush-wood on the banks and asked each man to fix a partner who would be a brother to him in the approaching pilgrimage or a sister. Each set of two enters the temple as brother and sister or as brother and brother. If a man and wife go on the pilgrimage they enter as brother and sister. The operation of brother-making is simple. Each person gets two teeth brushes. One he fixes in the bed of the river, and another he exchanges with another person who has become his brother by giving him his own unused one. Where husband and wife are pilgrims, they exchange teeth brushes with each other, thus constituting themselves for the nonce brother and sister.

The Guide commenced with asking the Brahmacharee (whom he loved and respected as a Brahman and holy man) whom he had exchanged *datan* with. He gave the name of a Hindustani. (We thought Shama Charan and he would have exchanged the sign of brotherhood. But Shama Charan was his senior by many years and he preferred a Hindustani.) The next question was—Which of you offered the *datan* first? The answer being that he had first given his *datan* to the Hindustani, the Guide said then you are senior, you must have precedence. Soon he dipped himself in the well and changed clothes. Before he had well put on his dhoti or robe, the Guide put him in the temple, the door of which he then opened. Having introduced him, he shut one half the door and asked him to deliver his clothes, which was accordingly done. Then his "brother" was sent after him, and in the same way was denuded. Then they were told to proceed through and come out at the right door. So he shut up the door completely against them. It was there pitch dark and oppressive. It was a severe trial. There was no knowing what was in. No one had entered the room before them that day. There might be animals even reptiles. There might be obstructions in the building, which was rough, of mud and unhewn stones which were sticking out and in. With right hand fingering *rudraksha* beads and *poita* on the breast and left hand raised over the

head and beyond it to feel any obstruction, he tremblingly felt his way, advancing his right foot cautiously first. On the right his body felt a post rather towards the middle of the room, a kind of broken uneven pillar of earth, in avoiding which his left side struck against the pointed stones of the wall. Once he feared what would be his fate if the Guide left them shut up there, but then he remembered there were others outside, sixteen of their companions. So they came out by the other door—and received their clothes.

And the same process was repeated upon the others.

In the morning, they see that they have all been changed in color into the color of infants soon after birth, almost red. Informant, not a fair man but not black or dark for a Bengali, retained this color for a day or a day and a half. The other Babu, who was a very fair man, retained it for some days.

That is all the Tirtha of Hinglaj.

AMATEUR STATESMANSHIP.

INTERESTED as we are in the cause of the Native Press, we cannot help feeling distressed at any grave lapses or ludicrous blunders committed by our brethren of the quill. An instance of the latter kind has just come from the Western Presidency. The *Civil and Military Gazette* publishes the following telegram from Poona:—

"Mr. Baines, of the Civil Service, has been appointed on special duty in connection with the Crawford case. The Chief of Bhore has had an interview with some Government officials regarding the case. It is alleged that Mr. Crawford borrowed money from him. It is also stated that the Government is bringing pressure to bear on him in order to effect disclosures. The Natives show strong sympathy towards Mr. Crawford. When he was released on bail, the Brahmans in Poona and Rutnagherry testified their joy. The latter distributed sugar. An orthodox person paid twenty Brahmans to pray for Mr. Crawford. A Native journal warns Government that the public are watching to see if the decision to appoint a Commission be honest or not, and objects to Government officials sitting on it. It suggests that the Commission be composed of the Editors of the *Pioneer*, *Englishman*, *Statesman*, *Mirror*, and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, and that it be presided over by a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, to supply the requisite legal knowledge."

That is a characteristic specimen of the intelligence of a section, and that not the least loud, of the Native Press, both English and vernacular. It seems an echo of voices nearer home—of the Mutius Scævolas of the Platform and the Press, who are ready to govern the country through the Indian Association and the National Fund and even prepared to defend India against Russia, with their three hundred brave youths enrolled as Volunteers. There is profound statesmanship in the suggestion of this Western journal. The *personnel* of the proposed Commission to try Mr. Crawford has been fixed with great discrimination and no end of diplomacy. There is no absence of the appearance of justice, seeing that all parties are represented. Indeed, there is too much appearance of fairplay for the end in view. Three powerful English dailies are juxtaposed to only a couple of Indian prints, one of them a weekly, thus:—

The *Pioneer*
The *Englishman*
The *Statesman*

The *Indian Mirror*
The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*.

The *Indian Daily News* is evidently not trusted, and we are neither here nor there. But we protest against the exclusion of the fiery *Bengalee*. Or, is it too suspected? *O tempora!* Let our Gifted of the Gab look to his laurels. No Render is already elbowing Surrender Not out of his own.

We wonder why our statesman of the Native Press was not out with his nomination to the Presidency, instead of simply contenting himself with desiring a High Court Judge. Can a better man be found than Mr. Justice Mitter? With him for President and holder of the casting vote, how beautifully the balance would be even and the cause of Justice and Native Politics triumph! Perhaps, the schemer counts upon the *Statesman*, as in the press so on the Commission, quarrelling with his European colleagues and lending his weight into the opposite scale. The more the merrier! is it not?

What a pity that this nonsense should be transmitted through the telegraph from one part of India to another, to the discredit of the Native Press and the distress of sober Indian patriots! But the greater pity is that this sort of stuff should be carefully composed, set up, and printed and published in any of our newspapers. It is extraordinary that the absurdity and impertinence of such things should not strike their authors.

This Poona writer had not the slightest doubt of the capacity of his nominees for the task to which they were to be appointed. Men who could draft leading articles could do anything short of the miraculous. And why should not critics of Judges make good Judges themselves? That is unanswerable argument, to be sure. But there is another little consideration to which this sapient journalist might in pity for his cloth have paid some heed. Was it possible to get together for such a duty some half a dozen independent gentlemen belonging to an exacting profession? Such is the character of a good deal of amateur native statesmanship. The fact is that, from too long disuse, governing is fast becoming with us one of the lost arts. Hence, we fondly cling to the small measure of local administration our rulers are disposed to humour us with. Hence, we hate the very sound of "annexation," and are indignant at the intrusion of British officials in Native Administrations.

SELF-GOVERNMENT IN THE SUBURBS.

LOCAL Self-Government seems destined to have no peace. What between enemies abroad and factions at home, it has from the first had a hard time of it. All the more cautious and moderate should our leaders of Self-Government be, under these circumstances. They should remember that they are placed on a trial, on the issue of which hang not their individual interests but the interests of the country—that their power should be turned to the good of the public rather than to their own enjoyment and vain-glory. Their position may expose them to much undeserved opposition or even obloquy, but without allowing this to sour their temper or warp their judgment, they should hold the even tenour of their way, doing their duty according to law and justice. Above all, their conduct should be above the suspicion of being dictated by motives of vindictiveness or self-glorification.

We have been led to this strain of moralising by a report of certain proceedings on the part of the Chairman of the Rajpur Municipality. It would seem that the Rajpur Vernacular School had been for years in the uninterrupted enjoyment of a Municipal grant, and that, in consideration of the usefulness of the institution, neither the present Board nor its predecessor had ever thought of withdrawing the grant. Since the late elections, however, the personal relations between the Secretary of the school and the present Chairman have been somewhat strained, and the Secretary is no longer a *persona grata* to the head of the Municipality and his party in the Board. The existence of parties is a matter of public notoriety at Rajpur, and there is no use ignoring the fact. The School Secretary appears to have made himself prominent by his opposition to the election of the present Chairman and incurred his enmity. At any rate, our information is to the effect that the Chairman secretly meditated vengeance upon the School, and at the last budget meeting brought forward a motion for the withdrawal of its grant. The usefulness of the School, however, prevailed, and the Chairman was outvoted. But he, rather than learn wisdom from this discomfiture, was not prepared to be baulked of his object. At the next meeting, he came better prepared, and reopened the question. Here again the votes were against him, but, with the exercise of a species of high-handedness for which there is no parallel, he disallowed one of the Commissioner-friends of the School from giving his vote, on the curious ground that in the speech which he made a slight error of fact had inadvertently crept in. He wanted to withdraw the particular remark, but he was not permitted to do so, nor was his vote counted. Even now, the votes were equal on both sides, and the Chairman was of course in an indecent haste to give his casting vote and carry the day. We wonder there is so little knowledge about us of the responsibility implied in the exercise of this great privilege, and it is exercised so often without any sense of the responsibility—in mere lightness of heart, nay, a spirit of braggadocio. It is always a situation of delicacy to have to give the casting vote, and no Chairman who realizes the moral responsibility it involves, or even possessed of practical prudence, but would gladly escape from the situation by declining to give the vote, and put off the discussion for a fresh ballot. It may be pleasant enough to be thrust into a position of authority, and proceed according to the forms of constitutional government. But the forms are never truly learnt unless one goes beyond the letter to their spirit. The Chairman has apparently been unwise enough to give a handle to his enemies who may, with good reason, say he has been led by private feelings in the matter. If he had any public reasons for his proposal for the abolition of the School grant, the way in which he has gone about the matter hardly shows this. At all events, it was not proper to

reopen a question of the kind so soon after it had been deliberately closed to deny the right of voting to a Commissioner on such a flimsy pretence.

• We understand the aggrieved party in the Board having laid the matter before the District Magistrate, Mr. Bolton has quashed the proceedings, on the ground of the irregularity of the exclusion of the rejected vote.

THE ANTI-CONGRESS WAVE IN BEHAR.

Patna, Sept. 10.

A rather novel public meeting was held yesterday in the Patna College, which is for some time being used for all sorts of school boy meetings. I doubt whether the College authorities are aware of the character of such gatherings, and the subjects which are discussed there. There is an association of the Mahomedan school boys named Anjumani-Islami, the meetings of which ordinarily take place in the College on Sundays, and in which preachers and Moulvies are invited to discourse and preach on religious subjects for the moral and religious instruction of the boys. Preachers of every denomination are invited to lecture and preach here on the above subjects. Yesterday (Sunday), as usual, people went to hear the preaching, and, to their great surprise and mortification, they found the Government pleader, a Mahomedan Khan Bahadur, delivering a speech against the National Congress. The Municipal Vice-Chairman, M. S. Fazley Immam Khan Bahadoor occupied the chair and the junior Khan Bahadoor Kazi Saheb was said to have been armed with a letter of advice or instruction from the veteran and venerable Sir Syud the Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Congress agitation in N. W. P. It was whispered among well-informed persons in the meeting that, at the suggestion of the old gentleman, this young association of the young men was utilised for the purpose of carrying out a partizan political object. The three Khan Bahadurs took the most leading part in the proceedings. All who went to hear a religious discourse or lecture, were quite surprised when they saw the pulpit changed to a political platform and heard things of which they could understand little or nothing. As far as I know, the object of this meeting was not advertised or mentioned in the invitation card. Everything was done by keeping the public in the dark. After this anti-Congress business was over, the preacher or the Moulvie addressed the meeting on some religious subject. Most people who are supporters of this young association were much disgusted by the underhand means by which these inexperienced young men were prevailed upon by their elders to lend the help of their religious association to a political agitation. The speeches addressed to the meeting were miserably poor and repeated some of the oft-repeated arguments of the old Syud Saheb—none of the speakers appeared to have been prepared with his subject or to have studied it properly. They spoke something at random, depreciating the Congress. What has become of the branch N. M. Association at Patna, and why was not a meeting of that branch Association called to protest against the Congress or to ascertain the views of the Mahomedans of this place about it? Is its use now confined only to enlarging the lists of so-called branches in the addresses to Governors and memorials to Government? Why was not that Association utilized for its proper object? This clearly shews that there is something rotten in the state of Denmark. If that Association is in need of the help and influence of schoolboys, the Nationalists ought to be ashamed of the great fuss they always make of representing the Mahomedan community. Was it fair to utilize a religious association of the boys in this way? It is a great mistake to mix up schoolboys in political agitations and give them a taste for things for which they are not intellectually prepared. For these reasons, many young men are neglecting their studies, and the college authorities are better aware of it than an outsider. These gentlemen are quite welcome to hold any meeting which they think proper, but they should not use such childish means to give a representative character to the meetings and divert the attention of the students from their studies. Yesterday's meeting has done more harm than good to the cause for which it was held and also to the Anjuman-i-Islam. Politics has already spoiled a large number of schoolboys in Calcutta and other parts of Bengal, and it has been doing great harm to the students here. Parents are receiving complaints against their children who are in the schools. The college authorities ought to watch what the boys discuss at their clubs and meetings, and should not make the college hall a platform for party politics and abusive and sensational speeches, for which there are many places in the town. Although almost all the leading Mussulmans of Patna are against the Congress, they highly deprecate such tactics to gain their political object as was tried in imposing the anti-Congress movement upon the young students' Association. Such a step betrays the weakness of the cause of the agitators, and should not have been taken.

It is now high time that the thoughtful and leading men of our society should take lesson from the painful experience of their

Hindoo brethren in dealing with their young men who are receiving a Western education. The best course is that these should be let alone until they have completed their education and obtained a due sense of responsibility of their own actions, conduct and views. It is dangerous to encourage them to join political agitations or to discuss freely on social customs and usages, and thus directly and indirectly criticise the conduct of their guardians and the elders of the community. If the boys are treated and recognized as members of society, and their opinions on public questions are asked, their heads are turned and they attach an amount of importance to themselves which is not only unbecoming but offensive, and they grow disrespectful to their superiors and the authorities. The other day a school-boy protested against his father having a *mutā* or *nikkā* and was so impertinent as to argue with some of his elder relations on the point. I hope that the so called leading Mahomedans of Patna will spare the schoolboys for the future and carry on their political campaign unassisted by these untrained young soldiers.

TRUTH.

Law.

SHAN STATES BILL.

The Hon'ble Mr. Scoble, in moving for leave to introduce the Bill, spoke as follows :—

"Among the territories formerly governed by King Thebaw which, by the Proclamation of 1st January, 1886, were declared to have become part of Her Majesty's dominions, were several groups of Shan States, a few lying to the west of the Irrawaddy, and some beyond the Salween, but most of them occupying the great Shan plateau between those two rivers. These States, upwards of seventy in number, large and small, have an aggregate area of over 40,000 square miles, and contain a population estimated at two millions. Under the Burmese Government, their administration seems to have been left in the hands of their own Chiefs or Sawbwas, with but little interference so long as the due amount of tribute was regularly paid.

"After the fall of Mandalay, letters were sent to the Shan Chiefs telling them that the British Government did not desire to interfere with their autonomy so long as they kept the peace, paid the usual moderate tribute, and abstained from fighting with each other. Accordingly, my learned predecessor, Mr. Ilbert, in presenting the Upper Burma Laws Bill to this Council in September, 1886, remarked :—

"There is no present intention of importing British law into the Shan States, and therefore we have excluded those States from the operation of the laws which we declare in force in Upper Burma, merely reserving a power, which may possibly be useful hereafter, to introduce into any portion of those States such laws, if any, as may be required."

"During the two years which have elapsed since this Bill became law considerable progress has been made in the settlement of the relations between the Shan States and the British Government; and the object of the measure which I now ask leave to introduce is to put these relations upon a legal basis. Its main feature is to vest the administration of civil and criminal justice and the collection of the revenue within each State in the person for the time being recognised by the Government as the Chief of the State, subject to such conditions as the Government may prescribe; and to provide that, until varied by the introduction of British law, the law to be administered in a Shan State shall be the customary law of the State in so far as that law is in accordance with justice, equity and good conscience, and the punishments which may be awarded thereunder, or the practices which are permitted thereby, are in conformity with the spirit of the law in force in the rest of British India.

"The system thus introduced carries out the traditional policy of the Government of India. When a territory has newly come under our administration, and is not ripe for the introduction of the more perfect system which prevails in our older provinces, we have not introduced it. 'To govern the people through their native Chiefs,' as Mr. Mountstuart Elphinstone well observes in his Report on the Territories conquered from the Peshwa, 'is the only one practicable plan until the gradual effects of civilization have produced their natural results.' 'The plan,' he adds, 'has many obvious and palpable defects, and many more will no doubt appear when its operations are fully observed. It has this advantage that it leaves unimpaired the institutions, the opinions and the feelings that have hitherto kept the community together, and that, as its fault is meddling too little, it may be gradually remedied by interfering when urgently required.' It makes no great changes, either real or apparent, in the laws, and it leads to no revolution in the state of property. The established practice also, though it be worse than another proposed in its room, will be less grievous to the people, who have accommodated themselves to the present defects and are scarcely aware of their existence; while every fault in a new system, and perhaps many things that are not

faults, would be severely felt for the want of this adaptation.'

"Working upon the lines thus laid down by one of the wisest of Indian statesmen the Bill empowers the Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council,—

- to appoint officers to take part in the administration of civil and criminal justice and the collection of the revenue within any Shan State into which it may be desirable to introduce British agency ;
- to define the powers and regulate the procedure of the officers so appointed ;
- to direct by what authority any jurisdiction, power or duty incident to the operation of any British law that may be introduced into the State is to be exercised or performed ; and
- to modify the customary law of the State in so far as, in the opinion of the Local Government, that law is not in accordance with justice, equity and good conscience, or authorises punishments, or permits practices, which are

essentially repugnant to civilized ideas.

"These powers will be exercised, as regards the Shan States generally, only when the occasion for putting them in force is imperatively demonstrated ; but there is a collection of petty States, called the Myelat, or middleland, between Burma proper and the Shan plateau, in regard to which, though it may not be desirable to introduce direct British administration, it is necessary to make immediate provision for the establishment of the British Government as the direct controlling authority. Under the Burmese régime, these petty States had a certain independence in the management of their internal affairs, but in all important matters were subject to the orders of the Government at Mandalay. Section 6 of the Bill will enable the Chief Commissioner to exercise in the Myelat the powers formerly possessed by the King of Burma ; and it is hoped that by carefully regulating, watching, and as opportunity occurs improving, the existing methods of local government, he may be able to render the Myelat an example which the other Shan States may be spontaneously glad to follow."

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "We serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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Asrukana is a collection of poetical pieces of singular pathos and beauty of expression. It is a series of mournful songs that the reader is here presented with and they must touch a sympathetic cord in every heart that can feel. There is a singular appropriateness in the title of the work, and in its pious dedication to the memory of the husband of the fair writer.—*The Indian Nation*.

The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

This is poetry in life

We have read Srimiti Girindra Mohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1888.

No. 342

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

NATURE.

How graceful was that Grecian creed
Which taught that tongues, of old,
Dwelt in the mountain and the mead,
And where the torrent roll'd ;
And that in times of sacred fear,
With sweet mysterious moans,
They spoke aloud, while some pale seer
Interpreted their tones.*

II.

And, Lady, why should we not deem
That in each echoing hill,
And sounding wood, and dancing stream,
A language lingers still ?
No lovelier scenes round Delphi spread
Than round thee stretch divine ;
Nor Grecian maid bent brighter head
By haunted stream than thine.

III.

Then fancy thus that to thine ear,
While dies the autumn day,
The Voices of the Woodlands bear
This tributary lay.
Soft winds that steal from where the moon
Brightens the mountain spring,
Shall blend with Mulla's † distant tune,
And these the words they sing :—

1.

"Thou'st shared our thousand harmonies ;
At morn thy sleep we stirr'd
With sounds from many a balmy breeze,
And many a jocund bird ;
And far from us, when pleasure's lure
Around thy steps shall be,
Ah, keep thy soul as freshly pure
As we came pure to thee !

2.

"At noon, beneath September's heat,
Was it not sweet to feel,
Through shadowy grasses at thy feet,
Our silver water steal ?
Sparklingly clear, as now the truth
Seems in thy glance to glow ;
So may, through worldly crowds, thy youth
A stainless current flow.

* Although the allusion refers, in the verses, to Delphi, it was, I think, at Dodona, in the earliest period of oracular influence, that this belief prevailed.

† "And Mullah mine, whose waves whilome I taught to weep."—Spenser.

3.

"At eve, our hills for thee detain'd
The sun's departure bright.
He sank—how long our woods were stain'd
For thee with rosy light !
The worth, the warmth, the peace serene,
Thou'st known our vales among,
Say, shall they be reflected seen
Upon thy heart as long ?

4.

"Morn, noon and eve—bird, beam and breeze,
Here blent to bless thy day ;
May portion of their memories
Be ever round thy way !
Sweet waters for the weary bark,
Through parching seas that sails ;
Friends may grow false and fortune dark,
But Nature never fails."

THOUGHT AND DEED.

Full many a light thought man may cherish
Full many an idle deed may do ;
Yet not a deed or thought shall perish,
Not one but he shall bless or rue.

When by the wind the tree is shaken,
There's not a bough or leaf can fall,
But of its falling heed is taken
By One that sees and governs all.

The tree may fall and be forgotten,
And buried in the earth remain ;
Yet from its juices rank and rotten*
Springs vegetating life again.

The world is with creation teeming,
And nothing ever wholly dies ;
And things that are destroyed in seeming,
In other shapes and forms arise.

And nature still unfolds the tissue
Of unseen works by spirit wrought ;
And not a work but hath its issue
With blessings or with evil fraught.

And thou may'st seem to leave behind thee
All memory of the sinful past ;
Yet oh, be sure thy sin shall find thee,
And thou shall know its fruits at last.

COMPENSATION AND CONTENTMENT.

WHAT can the blessing of the Lord impart—
Sought with such earnestness of voice and heart ?
It can pour sweetness in the meanest cup
That sorrowing poverty e'er lifted up

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

To quench its cravings ;—till the draught shall seem
Pleasant and soothing as a happy dream.
Though sometimes God's redeemed and loved may lay
In abject poverty, yet day by day
He feeds them, as He feeds the little bird,
Whose grateful song the forest's heart hath stirred.
Each day is food provided—from the morrow,
No useless cause of added grief they borrow ;
But seeing everywhere their Father's works,—
Where'er an insect sports or blossom lurks,—
Viewing His tender, ceaseless care for those,
They look to Him in hope through want and woes.
Has not the little bee a draught as sweet*
From the bright flower that springs beneath our feet,
As the tall stag, through acres free to stray,
From the broad river rushing on its way ?
Canst thou not slake thy burning thirst as well
From a full cup as where clear waters swell
O'er marble basins, at whose sculptured brink,
With golden chalice, wealth may stoop to drink ?
Be thou contented only, and thou'lt be,
With but thine herbs and brook, more rich than he
Who pineth 'midst his luxury and pride,
For some poor trifle to his grasp denied.

* Jeremy Taylor.

E. S. R.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE Government offices will be closed for the Durga Puja holidays from the 9th to the 20th October, both days inclusive. The offices reopen on Monday the 22nd October.

The Bank of Bengal will observe only 7 seven days as close holidays. It will remain open till 1 P. M. four days, namely, Wednesday the 10th, Monday the 15th, Thursday the 18th and Saturday the 20th.

The other Banks have not yet spoken.

The Small Cause Court closes from Friday the 5th October, and re-opens, after the Kali Puja, on the 5th November.

LORD and Lady Lansdowne are expected by the P. and O. steamer *Ganges* leaving Brindisi on the 19th November.

PREPARATIONS are making for the Black Mountain Expedition. A telegraph line has been constructed between Abbottabad and Mansehra on the Oghi route.

MAJOR MELLISS has returned to Simla. The result of his inspection of the Cashmere troops is that the Maharaja has agreed to bear the cost of maintaining in a state of efficiency 2,500 of his troops at Jummoo, who are to be instructed with our garrison at Sealkote.

THE Home remittances last week were £318,900.

It is reported from Mandalay that Lt. Beevor, R. E., D. P. W., was found murdered in his bed. He was cut over the head and stabbed in the throat and heart. A Burman servant who is *non est* is suspected, but the crime has not yet been fixed on any person or persons.

SIMLA has been visited with a continuous rainfall of forty hours.

REUTER reproduces a report from Tashkend that the Amir of Afghanistan died suddenly. We hear nothing of it in India.

ON the 18th September in the Senate, Vice-President John Sherman advocated the union of Canada with the United States, at the same time preserving the local autonomy of both.

THERE have been bread riots in some places, in consequence of the partial failure of harvest throughout France. It was believed the Government would be forced to suspend the protective duty on cereals. But it has been found necessary not to do so.

MR. JOHN DILLON, M. P., has been released owing to his state of health in prison.

AUSTRIA and Germany are jointly endeavouring to reconcile King Milan to his wife Queen Nathalie. In the event of their success, the divorce proceedings will be dropped.

THE Burmese police in the Toundwingyi District have had a great success. They have killed Boh Nyun who escaped from jail sometime ago and had been operating between Kokogwa and Sathway, and have captured four of his followers, with guns and ammunition.

THE Opium Act I. of 1878 has been introduced into the whole of Upper Burma, excepting the Shan States, from the 15th September, the duty being fixed at Rs. 15 a *viss* on all importations.

THE survey has been sanctioned of a railway from Kotri on the Indus, through Jeysulmere and Bikanir, to Delhi, to be known as the Great Western of India Railway Survey with the Superintending Engineer, 1st Class, Mr. H. Bell as Engineer-in-Chief. It may be called the Great Desert line. The proposed railway will be at once a great engineering and economic work.

SURGEON-MAJOR W. H. GREGG, M. B., Civil Surgeon of Hooghly, officiates as Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, during the absence, on medical leave, of Brigade-Surgeon R. Lidderdale, M. D.

THE official weather report published last week says :—

"The general distribution of the rainfall of the week was on the whole, similar to that which has characterized the present monsoon hitherto. Over the greater part of Burmah, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, and the West Coast the total rainfall up to date is in excess of the average, whilst in the Punjab, the Central Provinces, and the Peninsula generally it is more or less in defect, the deficiency being most marked in some parts of the Bombay and Madras Deccan, Hyderabad, Mysore, and Coorg."

A FULL Bench of five Judges of the Madras High Court have set aside the conviction on the first charge in the Tellicherry bribery case, but have confirmed both the conviction and sentence in the second.

THERE is prospect of a suitable High Court house for Madras. Rough plans and estimates, amounting to Rs. 9½ lacs, have been accepted. The work will be proceeded with at once.

THE *Daily Telegraph's* Special Correspondent at Glasgow having reported Glasgow's claim for the title of the Second City of the Empire, on the ground that since the Queen's last visit in 1849, Glasgow has "grown enormously, and the population, which is now little short of 700,000, has practically doubled," "A Bombay Journalist" protests, "as a humble citizen of Bombay, I ask you to be allowed to remind them—and the reminder will only amuse them to-morrow—that the population of Bombay is now more than 800,000, and that Bombay claims to be, not only *Prima in Indis*, but Second in the Empire."

THERE was a serious fire at Hamburg. It originated in a sugar refinery with explosion of a petroleum lamp. Ten persons were burnt to death, and large quantities of cotton, saltpetre, matches, sugar, wines, spirits, palm oil and 30 barges laden with coal were destroyed. The total loss of property is given at nearly five millions. The English insurance offices suffer most, namely, the Commercial Union £99,000, the London £250,000 and the Phoenix £300,000. This petroleum is a dangerous nuisance, and the nations will yet wake to the necessity of checking its indiscriminate consumption and careless storage.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Those who have given these remedies a fair trial freely admit that they inherently possess every property suitable for healing and removing eruptions, ulcerations, piles, abscesses, sores, bad legs, gathered breasts, and all disorders of the glandular system. When carefully rubbed in the Ointment relaxes the swollen muscles, diminishes inflammation, assuages pain, and even alleviates dangerous maladies which may have lasted for months, or even years. Holloway's excellent preparations are effective singly, resistless in combination, and have been recommended by grateful patients to be resorted to as alternatives when all other means of regaining health have failed. Their action is temperate, not violent or reducing.

IN August, 34,192 persons visited the Indian Museum, *i. e.*, natives—26,339 males and 7,296 females; Europeans—425 males and 132 females. The daily average for the 21 days on which the Museum was open to the general public, was 1,628 visitors.

MR. AD. ARRENZ of Birmingham claims to have manufactured a razor which "must never be ground or honed," and only "occasionally passed very lightly over a good soft strop." The razor consists of a handle and four blades—each blade can be substituted by another to give it rest. We hope this is no true Brummagem invention, of the nature of the instrument sold to the country bumpkin by Peter Pindar's Razor Seller.

IF the philosopher's stone is not yet, here is the nearest approach to it: "The new alloy of copper and silicium is said to be as good as gold for all purposes of ornamentation, and better for many other purposes. According to the proportion of silicium in the mixture, the alloy is malleable both when heated and at ordinary temperatures. It is described as having the colour of virgin gold."

A MONSTER raft, consisting of 4,000 pines, and 725 feet long and 170ft. wide, with 120 crew, was floated from Mayence to Utrecht in July last.

THE fastest armed cruiser is owned by Germany. The *Greif* has a displacement of 2,000 tons and is fitted with engines of 5,400 indicated horse-power. She voyaged from Kiel to Wilhelmshafen at 23 knots.

JEALOUSY of England still rules the Parisian. The Paris municipality would not approve of tram cars for the Paris Tramway Company made in England. Do they smell of beer or gin?

THE Waltham Watch Company are engaged on a transparent watch—

"The case and plates are of Brazilian pebble, or rock crystal. Holes are drilled in the crystal plates for the various screws and fittings; the pivots are set in rubies and sapphires, and the plates are held apart by sapphire pillars. The dial is a skeleton of gold. Diamonds mark the hours and rubies the minutes. The watch is, of course, transparent."

CHICAGO has 2,396 manufacturing firms, representing £23,500,000 capital and employing 134,000 workpeople. There are forty foundries and sixty machinery manufactories, producing £3,650,000 goods and £2,300,000 agricultural implements. And this after the great fire which not long ago consumed the city!

Scientific American says:—

"A marine brake has been invented by M. Pagan, and was recently tested on the Seine. It consists of a cable, having attached to it a series of canvas cones, which open out by the action of the water, and exert an enormous retarding force on the vessel. Thus the steamer *Corsaire*, running at a speed of 13 knots, was stopped by this appliance in seven seconds, 34 seconds being required when she stopped by reversing the engines without making use of the brake."

DURING the last ten years, San Francisco has put Europe out of the market in the Hawaiian archipelago, as regards machinery for the sugar plantations. She is now able to supply pumps which can distribute 50,000 to 75,000 gallons of water per hour, and produces yearly 500 iron boilers at a cost of \$1,000 each.

We read in an English trade journal:—

"Messrs. Davies, Codner, and Company, of 175, Upper Street, E.C., and Bromley-by-Bow, are about embarking in a new manufacture, which promises to become a very important branch of the steel industry and a powerful rival of corrugated iron in the construction of buildings. The invention comes to us from Belgium, and is known as the 'Danly' system of patent steel buildings. It is the outcome of many years' experimenting by Mr. G. Danly, manager of the Société Anonyme des Forges, at Aiseau. The object of the inventor has been to do away with the many objectionable features which are inseparable from the present use of corrugated iron as a constructive material. In the first place, corrugated iron buildings are extremely unsightly, as usually constructed; and, in fact, the material in that form does not lend itself to any great degree of ornamental use or variety in design. Secondly, this class of buildings, though furnishing a comparatively secure protection against fire from without, rather increases than diminishes the risk of total destruction in the case of fires originating within the building. They consist merely of wooden structures, covered externally with a shell of galvanised iron, and an internal fire feeds upon the woodwork, heating the iron shell, and speedily turns the structure into a furnace. Thirdly, they are unstable in gales of wind. Fourthly, there is a lack of ventilation usually; and, in fact, a proper system of ventilation is not easily effected with the use of this material. In

torrid climates, particularly, corrugated iron structures are often found intolerably hot and stifling, preventing a free circulation of air and becoming at times almost uninhabitable. Mr. Danly has aimed to correct all these shortcomings by employing steel as a material of construction. By beginning with a unit of construction and making all parts multiples of the dimensions of this unit he has been able to produce not only one but a great variety of designs, all built up of parts bearing this definite arithmetical relation to each other. Each piece is a stamped steel plate, with relieved surfaces, giving to the face a resemblance to cut stone panelling. These panels, which have perpendicular flanges at their edges, are laid in horizontal courses, and tied together with flat iron ties interposed between the courses. Holes of uniform gauge are punctured in the flanges, so that marking or numbering of the pieces is wholly unnecessary, and to make the joint impervious to rain the lower flanges are bent over them, thus making the joints watertight. To secure desirable architectural variety different models or units of construction are employed, so that any desired style of architectural combination which occurs in wall construction can be obtained, columns, architraves, lintels, &c., being produced with remarkable fidelity. If the ground is level, no preparation of foundation is required for these buildings. Two rigid [shaped iron frames, securely tied, form the base, and the building is placed directly upon the ground. Stamped metal sheets bolted to the lower wings of iron beams form the ceiling, which can be made sufficiently strong to support a fire-proof flooring. Ventilation is made as nearly perfect as can be by utilising the hollow spaces between the walls, to which the air in the rooms obtains access through holes in the skirting. This hollow ventilating space serves to prevent the outer cold penetrating the rooms in the winter or the excessive heat in the summer. By connecting the air spaces between the walls with the smoke flues of the chimneys a most effective ventilation is obtained, the circulation having a velocity of about three feet a second. Air inlets with regulating devices are also provided for each room. The chimney-pieces are constructed also of metal plates, having the usual shape of marble chimneys. Mr. Davies, the senior member of Messrs. Davies, Codner and Company, has been giving special pains to an exhaustive examination of this invention, and, as a result, his firm has, as we have already intimated, made arrangements to begin the manufacture of the 'Danly' steel buildings in Great Britain, for which the plant is to be laid down as soon as possible."

THE experiment of growing ipecacuanha in the Neilgiris has succeeded. At the close of 1887, there were 5,000 plants in stock, and of 500 planted at Nellum-pore, only three died.

THE Press Commissioner sends us the following *communiqué*:—

"The appointment which Captain F. Beauclerk, late R.E., has obtained in Hyderabad is that of Private Secretary to the Nawab Munir-ul-Mulk Bahadur. His services have been obtained in order to assist the Nawab in the management of his Estates. Captain Beauclerk has not been made Private Secretary to Sir Salar Jung."

We should think not. Is not Mr. Moreton Frewen Private Secretary to Sir Salar Jung? He has done nothing to be superseded, beyond addressing some officious letters to certain quarters. As for ability, he is hump of it. Captain Beauclerk is also an accomplished penman and is very well connected. But Mr. Frewen is a nephew of Lord Randolph Churchill and has already done Sir Salar yeoman's service. He wrote young Jung's articles for the *Nineteenth Century*. Above all, it was he who forced public attention to the late Hyderabad scandals. He had gone home on the same errand we believe, and is now back.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE high level railway through the Bolan Pass has been completed, thus connecting Quetta by two broad-gauge routes with the Indus Valley system.

REUTER'S Telegram dated Teheran 10th September stating that Sirdar Ishak Khan is marching on Kabul and that the Ameer is lying ill, gives a false impression of the actual situation in Afghanistan. According to the latest intelligence, Ishak Khan was at Khanabad, and the troops which he had sent forward in the direction of Kabul had not crossed the confines of his own province. At Khamard on the northern slopes of the Hindu Kush they were confronted by the Ameer's troops and defeated. The Ameer in his latest report announces that the Fort of Khamard has been taken, that several officers have been taken prisoners, and that among the prisoners is Ishak Khan's father-in-law. With regard to the Ameer's health, His Highness has of late more than once suffered from gout, but he has written to say that his illness was not serious, and that he has now recovered.—Press Commissioner.

The *Pioneer* is in a position to add that a force of Ishak's—infantry regiments, 2 cavalry troops and 4 guns—retired on the capture of the fort. Since, there has been no fighting.

ACCORDING to a report which has reached the *Times of India* from London, the question of the Burmah Ruby Mines has at last been settled, Messrs. Rothschild and Messrs. Streeter having united their interests, and sold the lease of the mines to the syndicate, which is to work them, for a profit of £300,000 over and above what they are to pay the Government. That is too vague for comment. In fact, it strikes us as an unbusinesslike statement. Messrs. Streeter had originally offered to Government only four lacs.

THE system of money-order for revenue purposes, generally introduced in April 1887 in these provinces, has indeed been successful. The total revenue thus paid during the past year amounted to Rs. 2,07,156, by 47,248 orders. The Districts of Chittagong, Mozufferpore, Dacca and Furreedpore largely availed themselves of the convenience. From the current official year, the system has been made "applicable to all estates, irrespective of the amount of their land revenue, and to include remittances of Zemindari dak cess, as well as land revenue and road and public works cess. It has also been ruled that other public demands may be paid at the option of the payer by ordinary postal orders, provided the particulars given are sufficient for the department concerned."

Up to date, the payment of rent under the Tenancy Act, by money-order, has been sanctioned for only one village in Howrah.

Is the continuance of the Zemindari dak cess justified by present circumstances. Is there any separate establishment not covered by the great Post Office?

MR. JAMES MONRO, C. B., formerly of the Bengal Civil Service, has resigned his office of Assistant Commissioner of the London Police. He could not pull well with his Chief. Ziddees, to express in our Indian parlance, never do. Two self-willed, opinionative men on the same business can at best be but like parallels in asymptote never meeting in harmony though ever so much disposed to unite in the common object: sooner or later they fall out and are compelled to part. There was another cause perhaps, for the strained relations between the two. The Chief of the Metropolitan Force was apt to regard himself at the head of his regiment, and he had never had an Indian Civil Servant under him, while the Assistant could not forget that he had been a ruler of millions.

LONG lists of Oriental names are a sore trial to printers and even editors. Accordingly, notwithstanding our knowledge of the language and subject concerned and the care we took in publishing the complete Lists of the Life Pensions and of the Gratuities granted to the servants of the late King of Oudh, we were not without fear of having overlooked some errors. Considering the vital importance of the matter to those concerned—the mischief that might be caused to parties by the omission of names or misnaming of parties or mistake in the figures—we had cause for anxiety: our benevolent object in procuring and publishing the Lists would then have miscarried. We are relieved to find that our publication has stood the test. Garden Reach has found only literal fault with some of the names. Even that fault is not so much ours as that of the Government offices. But there has been no injury to any one because no difficulty in identifying the names. Substantially our Lists have been found correct. One mistake, such as it is, has been discovered, and we hasten to correct it. In our List, Munshi Ather Ali, English Assistant, Khas Dufar, stands for a pension of Rs. 15. He, in reality, is entitled to and has got a monthly pension of Rs. 15-5-4. We have seen the pension roll.

WE are glad to be able to announce that the orders of Government have at length been carried out and Moulvie Abdul Jubbar, Deputy Collector, Alipore, has received charge of the disbursement of the Oudh pensions.

WE have received the Report on education in the Central Provinces for 1887-88. It is the last report, after a quarter of a century's all but continuous connection with the province, by Mr. Browning now on the eve of his retirement from the service. Mr. Browning was appointed Inspector-General of education in the Central Provinces in 1863, and has been in charge of the Department since that year to the present date, with the exception of a short service as Director of Public Instruction in Oudh. The benefit of keeping an officer long in charge of one

jurisdiction has been markedly conspicuous in the present case. Mr. Browning is personally beloved and esteemed by the people throughout the province, and the healthy influence exercised by him in advancing a cause which in the main must look to private effort for its expansion, must have been great. The progress of education, as disclosed by the Report, appears to be quite satisfactory. It is no small thing that a comparatively backward region like the Central Provinces should be at last competing at all the higher examinations of the University, with the single exception of the M. A. In 1887-88, for the first time, there were successful competitors at the examinations of L. C. E. (Engineering) and L. B. (Law). The number of Schools and Colleges, with that of students attending them, as well as the total expenditure from various funds, also bear testimony to the advance which education is making in the province.

IT is extraordinary that, at a time when so much sympathy is felt for the condition of women in this country and any case of oppression on an individual member of the fair sex is sure to rouse public indignation, there should be in our midst, within hailing distance of Police and Courts, a Hindu lady undergoing no end of petty annoyance and tyranny. Indeed, the peculiarity of her grievance—the despair of her situation—is that she is the victim of judicature and lawyers. We refer to Soorij Coomaree Beebee, whose name may be familiar to those who attend to the proceedings of the High Court. The other day she was disappointed in her latest pursuit of her right of precedence to the estate of her deceased husband's brother under the law of her sect—her disappointment scarcely tempered by the equivocal suggestion of the Court to her to launch, if she could or would, in another sea of litigation. Our object here, however, is not to criticise the action of the Court in the late case or others of the same kind that, always under advice of Pundits and lawyers, Eastern and Western, she had engaged herself in. The Court's will be done, whatever it be! We come not to arraign judges but to pity the woman. Whatever the law may be or the dictum of the courts thereon, surely men might be expected to treat the poor widow with some consideration. Ever since we heard of this unfortunate litigation, we heard that she was being kept in a sort of vile durance. We said nothing about it all the time, as we hoped the result of the litigation then going on must, whether she lost or won, free her. We regret to learn that it has proved otherwise. Her condition is not a whit improved. She is still virtually a prisoner in her house, where she is subjected to many annoyances and indignities. Her triumphant foes pursue to mean lengths their substantial advantage over a respectable lady unable to appear in public. Her adopted son Puddum Chand has been taken away from her, and she is not permitted to speak to her friends. And there is practically no help for her, unless the public come to the rescue. It is peculiarly a case in which independent men of influence might with propriety inquire and see whether such a wrong is passing under their nose.

Confinement within doors is so natural to ladies of her standing that Soorooj Coomari Beebee can, we suppose, scarcely feel the surveillance under which she is kept, except when the fact is forcibly brought to her notice by her inability to consult her friends or go to worship at the temple without leave or a good deal of harry. But she has other troubles. She is not allowed to forget her situation. Her enemies take every mean advantage of her position as a veiled lady within their power. And they are assisted by the lawyers. If nothing comes out of it, she is put to expenses—lawyers' costs and so forth. And now in view of the Festive season approaching and the Long Vacation already begun, they have withheld her maintenance. She receives under her husband's will Rs. 200 per mensem. This is not paid regularly month by month as it should be, but after much seeking, the amount due for some months is paid. And so from time to time. There was no denial, however. Thus it has been paid for these two years. Thus it was to have been paid now, too. The attorney for the parties promised to pay, but made some objections about costs. This difficulty was disposed of to his satisfaction, and he called for the Receipt before paying. The Receipt was given, but at the last hour, he has refused to pay. And why? Because Puddum Chand is not with the mother and they doubted whether she was entitled to maintenance at the rate of Rs. 200 under the circumstance! The attorney, of course, pleads, as attorneys always do, instructions, but the attorney is everything in the matter. And it is a great shame that the poor lady should be harassed in this way, at a time she has need of all the money she can scrape to support herself and when

she cannot establish her right and get her dues within six months and without much expense.

A RANGOON correspondent of a contemporary thus writes of Mr. Moylan :—

"This barrister is a terror and scourge to the province, because as literary and official artist his touches are not always very true, and he has no fear of man before his eyes; consequently the ideas of the Home papers on Burmese subjects, persons, and politics, are a good deal distorted and untrue. As I write this I tremble, as most, if not all, officials here do, lest I should be detected in my real individuality and punished by some scathing information against my official character being sent to the Home papers which might lead to the rising of misguided ire in the bosom of Lord Cross and to my sudden suspension or retirement. Nevertheless, I cannot forbear telling you of the universal chuckling generally behind the hand, hat, or handkerchief, or in the sleeve, but hearty notwithstanding, at a snub lately administered to this gentleman by the Recorder on Monday last with reference to certain remarks he had made in Court. 'The remarks were a reflection on the Bench, and must be withdrawn and apologised for.' Our friend endeavoured to slip out of what he had said in a way he has, but the Recorder had notes taken at the time, and he would not allow them to be contradicted, and 'the words his Honor ruled he had used' were withdrawn and apologised for, not at all too soon. For years it has been known that Home opinions have been greatly influenced by the *Times*' telegrams from Burma. The power wielded by the *Times*' correspondent is naturally immense, and as this 'vehement and passionate advocate often does not weigh his words sufficiently, it is very well he should be taught that he must do so.'"

This official poltroon is scarcely an honour to the British race. But the frank avowal of his shame and the shame of his class is useful in showing how little chance Mr. Moylan had of justice from the officers in Burma, Civil or Military, judicial or executive. It discloses the true motive for the dead set against him. It is plain enough that the Mutual Accommodation and Admiration Society in that country have not yet forgiven the independent *Times* Correspondent's scathing exposure of how the British made war and how they governed in Burma. The Civil Administrative staff of the Province cannot afford to have light let in on the doings of its members, any more than could the Commanders in the field.

HER MAJESTY'S High Court of Bombay is tender towards the manly British sport of cricket. An appointment for a match has just been virtually admitted as a satisfactory reason for being spared attendance on a jury. At the Criminal Sessions, on the 10th instant, one of the G. I. P. Railway Cricket Club eleven champions, Mr. T. Rhenius, appeared to a summons but applied to be released as the match was to come off that very day :—

"This novel excuse occasioned no little laughter in court, and Mr. Justice Bayley, who was highly amused, said that in the whole course of his experience he never heard such an excuse put forward. He, however, told the ardent cricketer to stand aside, and promised that if a panel could be completed without him, he would be discharged for the day. Mr. Inverarity, however, solved the difficulty entirely by challenging Mr. Rhenius, who left the court in high spirits."

BEFORE Mr. Justice Bayley and a common jury, at the Bombay Criminal Sessions, Sakharam Dhonee, a Hindoo, aged 22, was charged with having, on the 23rd June last, voluntarily caused grievous hurt to his wife, by cutting off her nose. He pleaded guilty, under grave provocation. His case was that he had spent Rs. 500 in marrying the woman Krishni. She had been continually giving offence, notwithstanding all his exhortations. She would not stay with him, and had, to his certain knowledge, adulterous intercourse with other men. At last he punished her by cutting off her nose. He hoped for the mercy of the court.

In passing sentence on the prisoner, Mr. Justice Bayley said :—

"Succaram Dhonee, from the statement which you made before the committing magistrate, it appears that you considered you had reason to doubt your wife's fidelity, and that you inflicted on her a trial of ordeal by making her take a pice out of a pot of boiling oil. As a matter of course her fingers were scalded in so doing, and this you considered conclusive proof of her unchastity. You then proceeded in the presence of your relatives to tie her hands and feet with a *dhatur*, and then taking a razor from off a shelf, cut off her nose. This habit of nose cutting is unfortunately very prevalent, and it was only yesterday that a man was convicted and sent to jail for inflicting cuts on a woman's face by attempting to cut her nose off. This habit of mutilating their wives is one which the lower classes of this country are unfortunately greatly addicted to, and as far as the courts are concerned, every effort is made to stop it. You are liable for this offence to be transported for the term of your natural life. I trust that the sentence which you will now receive will deter people from mutilating their wives in the manner you have mutilated yours. The sentence of the court on you is that you be transported for ten years."

WE find we were hasty in announcing that Bapu Saheb Jadon had been appointed to the Presidency *pro tem* at Gwalior. Our own information was that the matter was under consideration, though the public expectation in the State pointed to such an arrangement. But the *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* correspondent having since announced the officiating appointment as having been made by the Agent, Governor-General, before leaving, we thought we might accept it. But we have been deceived. There is no President yet, acting or permanent.

MR. HENVEY has returned from Simla, but the decision of Government as regards the Presidency in the Gwalior Regency is not yet announced. It has been vacant for sometime, and the silence of our Foreign Office is interpreted as boding no good to the State. The most natural thing would be to appoint the senior member, if he is not otherwise incapacitated. It would indeed be a dangerous thing for Gwalior and the other native States, if the Resident were made President. In the present instance, it will never do. The present members reject such an idea, and we shall not wonder if, in such an event, they gave up their respective places, and retired to their own estates.

WE have already mentioned Bapu Saheb Jadon as the one man on whom all eyes in Gwalior, but those of candidates and partisans, are fixed as the fittest for the chief office. The history of the country points in the same direction. We give an extract from a vernacular letter :—

"When Jeyaji Rao Scindhia succeeded to the Guddee in 1844, at the age of 8 or 9 years, Ram Rao Baba Phalkah administered the Government. After him, Bapu Saheb Jadon's father, Bhau Saheb Jadon, held charge for 4 or 5 years. The British Government was highly satisfied with his administration, and he died whilst holding the office of Prime Minister. He was esteemed both by the British Government and the Gwalior State. After his death, Bhau Fatah Navis succeeded. Next to him came Dinkar Rao, who was superseded by Balaji Chumnaji. After him, came Gunput Rao Khudkay. Bhau Saheb Jadon was the maternal uncle of Maharaja Jeyaji Rao Scindhia, besides being a very close relation of the late Maharaja on his father's side. The late Maharaja married the daughter of Bapu Saheb Jadon. This lady is the mother of the present minor Maharaja. Up to the moment of his death, the late Maharaja was highly pleased with Bapu Saheb Jadon, in fact, his late Highness was anxious that the administration of the State after his death should be entrusted to Bapu Saheb Jadon; but as Raja Gunput was then in office, the wish of the Maharaja could not be carried out. After the Maharaja's death, the British Government, to partially give effect to those wishes and in appreciation of his high character and his antecedents and his position in the State, appointed Bapu Saheb Jadon as the guardian of the Minor Maharaja and of his mother the Dowager Maharanee, as well as the first member in the Council of Regency. The education and bringing up of the minor Maharaja are entirely under the supervision of Bapu Saheb Jadon, and he is almost always with the minor Maharaja. The Dowager Maharanee, the Resident, and Dr. Crofts are all satisfied with the manner of his looking after the young Maharaja's education and health. The young Maharaja too is much attached to Bapu Saheb Jadon."

THE London Society journal *Truth* of the 30th August has the following paragraph :—

"Mr. Rider Haggard has been accused of plagiarism nearly as often as was Dumas, but the last 'coincidence' in his work, which has been discovered is a truly remarkable one and will require a good deal of explaining away. It is pointed out by Edinburgh and New York journals that in one of Mr. Haggard's latest stories there are many passages which have been 'conveyed,' to use Sir Walter Scott's phrase almost word for word from Charles Aubert, who also furnished the plot. The *Edinburgh Despatch* prints parallel passages which show that Mr. Haggard appropriated not merely Aubert's ideas, but also his language. I recommend Mr. Haggard to adopt as his motto the unabashed avowal of Moliere, 'Je prends tout bien ou je le trouve,' and he may console himself by reflecting that Virgil, Racine, Corneille, Voltaire, Shakespeare, Sheridan, Balzac, Sterne, Lord Beaconsfield, Lord Brougham and Lamartine were all plagiarists, to which distinguished list Mitaulay's name may be added, for his 'New Zealander' was certainly taken from Horace Walpole's traveller from Lima."

Notwithstanding the staggering string of names of great masters of prose or verse, at home or abroad, the acquaintance of these smart London men of letters with their own grand literature is neither deep nor wide. We certainly did not expect that the veteran Labouchere's own paper, the brilliant *Truth*, should talk of "conveyed" as "Sir Walter Scott's phrase." It is not a phrase but a word, to begin with. And that word is not Scott's. It is Shakespeare's. Every schoolboy knows it. Even in this country, the *Bengal Times* has heard of it in the far interior.

It occurs in *Merry Wives of Windsor* :—

"*Falstaff*.—I am glad I am so acquit of this tinder-box: his thefts were too open; his filching was like an unskilful singer,—he kept not time.

Nym.—The good humour is to steal at a minim's rest.

Pistol.—"Convey" the wise it call. 'Steal!' foh! a fico for the phrase."—Act I, Sc. III.

APART from the strange blunder of not rendering unto (the) Cæsar (of Literature) what is due to Cæsar, the paragraph is far from creditable to the London press. The remark on plagiarism is not to the point. It is vain to recommend to the living novelist Molière's avowal. Nor can Mr. Haggard derive much consolation from the example of the great writers who nearly always improved what they picked up. The names of the Latin poet and the French and English writers make a brave show, but they are taken at random and do not necessarily prove erudition. The list might be easily indefinitely increased. Some of the greatest masters of literature and worst "offenders" in the line are omitted. It is strange that the name of Milton should not have occurred to an English man of letters. It is inexcusable in an English writer who talks glibly of Racine, Corneille and Voltaire, not to remember Dryden and Pope, Byron and Shelley. By the bye, Voltaire is so voluminous an author in various departments of literature, that it is hard to understand which acts of literary larceny the writer in *Truth* refers to, or which department of the Frenchman's works he has specially in view. The passage raises other questions. If Lamartine, why not Victor Hugo? And, then, which Balzac is under indictment? If the reference is to the recent novelist, the prospect is indefinitely enlarged. It might afford Mr. Haggard truer consolation to remind him that after all, perhaps the majority of the caterers of sensation, whether as novelists or playwrights, are wont to crib without compunction from the Continentals, chiefly the French—not ideas or phrases but pages—not only plots but entire books. It is preposterous to justify the petty larceny and barefaced looting of a writer who will not be heard of in the next generation, by the legitimate transactions or occasional lapses of the Immortals.

AYUB and his family have been saved an accidental death. The Sirdar had been to dinner with the ladies of his house at a relative's, where, contrary to practice, they passed the whole night, returning home in the morning. During the night, however,

"the roof of the house, upon which he had been in the habit of sleeping ever since he came down to Pindi, had completely collapsed. Ayub's bed had been actually ready spread on the roof, and was smashed to atoms. Most fortunately for him, he was not in it; and the very women who occupied the rooms below were away with him, so that no one was hurt. Had the accident happened at any other hour of the day, or on any other day since the Sirdar has been at Pindi, there must have been a terrible disaster and loss of life. The whole thing is made the more curious, as the Sirdar as a rule, never sleeps out, and has not done so once in his memory more than seven years. The Afghans naturally look upon this escape as miraculous, and say that the Great God is preserving their master for some special purpose. If their hopes are ever realized, this odd chance will, no doubt, live in history."

On this, the all-believing *Mirror* seriously exclaims, "Sirdar Ayub Khan is destined probably to be the future ruler of Afghanistan. He has just had a narrow escape from death at Rawal Pindi."

A GREAT mystery is the death, on the last day of Vadro, of Kristomanini, aged 11 years, second wife of Sudhabodh, the second son, aged 18, of Jibbanunda Vidyasagar of Potuldanga. She was found dead in her bed where her husband had left her early in the morning on a visit to Kalighat. Her throat was almost cut right through. There was found a razor in her hand which rested on her chest. The fact was not known to the house till 2-30 P.M., and no information reached the Police till three in the afternoon. The story given out is that the girl wanted to go to her father's, but the month being unpropitious, she was not allowed to return to her paternal roof, and that being disgusted with herself on that account, she laid violent hands on her own self. The *Young Bengal* and correspondents in the *Mirror* describe the husband as a sort of wild boy of whom the father and the elder brother are in dread. He had once threatened the father and, to avoid rough usage at his hands, the elder brother had lived away for a time. It is also said that Sudhabodh had once punished the girl by "cutting one of the fingers of the deceased girl by a 'nut-cracker,' which act of valor was said to have been performed by the Pundit's son under the same roof, where the Pundit himself resides only a short time ago." The circumstances are suspicious, and Kristomanini must have been a heroic girl to wound herself to death in the way she is said to have done. The Police at first, as is their wont when no immediate victim is available, was of

the same view with the family that it is a case of suicide. But too late, after the disposal of the body, they grew wiser and suspected foul deed. Baboos Okhoy Coomar Banerjee and Kristo Chandra Banerjee were specially deputed for the enquiry. It is significant that neither the Pundit nor his son would see to the proper disposal of the body of the deceased. The Police could only get out of them Rs. 4 for the last rites, and the body, we are told, received such burial as the money paid down could purchase—at Dhappa. The Pundit's is a happy family indeed!

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1888.

THE MUSSULMANS OF BENGAL.

THE miserable war of creeds, which has been for some months going on in Upper India, has been carried down-country. The unwisdom of the Hindu politicians is responsible for this civil feud between communities, which, if they could not for the moment agree in questions of administrative reform, should, as they certainly might, live in social harmony. The Hindus fired the first shot. Still the Mahomedans stirred not. They exhibited exemplary forbearance. But the offence was repeated. Some of our prominent papers in especial, have, of late, adopted a most irritating policy. The staid old *Hindoo Patriot* has been one of the worst offenders. And now the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, conducted by men who, born and bred in the heart of a Mahomedan District, might be expected to understand the claims of our Mahomedan brethren, or at least to have some regard for their feelings, has opened a ferocious attack.

The *Patrika* has no reputation for a mealy mouth. For the most part, the abuse is showered on the British and their Government. The castigation is sometimes deserved and sometimes not, but it is laid on all the same with a willing hand, in season and out of it. There is a class of readers who relish such high-seasoned mental pabulum, and maybe the demand and supply react upon each other. Blisters have their uses in the treatment of the body politic, as of the body physical, provided they are applied at the proper time and place. That the operation is a painful one for the patients, cannot be denied, and it is natural that they should kick at it.

Between a reluctance to join the National Congress and the persistent demand advanced on their behalf, for better and more extensive employment in the public services, the Mussulmans of Bengal have excited the dire wrath of our contemporary, and, in a recent issue, the poor Faithful have received a full mouthful of the sweet nectar which is the speciality of that journal. In choice epithets, they are cursed as being most of them the descendants of unmentionable castes, including in the horrid category the tenderers and devourers of that unclean animal which is the special abomination of the followers of the Prophet.

Why should the demand of the Mahomedans for a due share in the loaves and fishes of office, excite so much indignation in a journal professing to represent the ultra patriotic view of all questions? We are not ourselves blind followers of the arithmetic method—we believe in the principle of personal fitness, irrespective of considerations of race, color or creed, and would be content to place the claims of Hindus and Mahomedans alike upon that and no other ground. But there are surer means of creating conviction than those resorted to by our contemporary. We, for instance, would point out that the numerical

method must first of all be applied to the Christians, and draw attention to the fact that in other parts of India the Mahomedans would lose by the application of that method. So that, on a broad view, it would be better for them to give up this ground which would not benefit them in the long run. Our mental attitude in this matter is in close accord with the views expressed by Sir Steuart Bayley, in his replies to the various Mahomedan deputations that waited upon him during his recent tours in the country.

We value the National Congress idea highly as a means for promoting the political and social union of the peoples of India, so much divided by the difference of language, creed and caste. It is with extreme regret, therefore, that we find that, owing to indiscretions on either side, the National Congress itself is becoming the cause of deep-seated disunion amongst our countrymen. That certainly would be a sad end for a fair beginning. If the Mahomedans declined to join the Congress, it was scarcely their fault; prudence and self-respect alike warned them off. If the Hindus and Parsees thought them wrong and wanted them still, they ought to have been persuaded to mend their way, by appeals to their understanding and their good feelings, and not by crying them down and imputing base motives. Sir Syad Ahmed Khan's lamentable incendiarism was indeed far in excess of the offence given, but that is no reason why the contagion should spread. The educated Hindus claim a higher culture, a deeper political insight, and they should have done better, by offering calm reason against the fire and fury of the Allygurh Pyrotechnic Exhibition.

In its wrath at the children of Islam, our contemporary does not stick at any weapon of offence, however offensive. It descends to pry into their ancestry and origin, and does not stop till it has made them out to be the basest of the base. Had there been any truth in its assertions, our contemporary would still have been guilty of a needless offence to those with whom we are so intimately bound by the ties of a common country and the same Government. But the insult is aggravated by the looseness of foundation of the statement. Speaking moderately, we think that there is very little reliable evidence to support the *Patrika's* sweeping generalisation as to the origin of the Bengali Mussalmans. On the contrary, there is much to be said on the other side of the question. A Mahomedan correspondent, whose communication is printed elsewhere, takes up the subject. For his violence, we must apologise—indeed, we had half a mind to suppress the correspondence, but decided on second thoughts to permit its publication, in order, amongst other reasons, to offer a safety valve to the ebullition of a very general feeling which, if pent up, might seek vent in other more mischievous directions—but he adduces specific instances in support of the respectability of our Mahomedan population. We have no doubt in our mind, from the results of researches and observations made in some of the most outlandish places of the Province as well as nearer home, that many Mahomedans, who now appear to the eyes of the casual and indifferent observer to be no better in origin than the low caste Hindus by whom they are surrounded, were really descended from a genuine Western Mahomedan stock. The Courts and encampments maintained by the Mahomedan Governors of Bengal, throughout various stages of political existence, must naturally have introduced thousands of Mahomedan soldiers, retainers and dependents into this Province, who were immigrants from Western

Mahomedan countries or the Indian descendants of such. It must not be supposed that only males left on this Exodus. We have authentic notices of whole families, men, women and children, immigrating. The family of the Empress Noor Jehan, for one, will occur to any one in the least acquainted with history. Considering, indeed, the respectable uxorious habits of the Faithful, the colonist camp must have been accompanied by a female contingent, however inadequate. When these men settled down in different parts of Bengal, as many of them did, receiving offices or grants of land, they must, many of them, have sent for their families. Although the way was long, the Ganges and its tributaries afforded easy means of locomotion for a downward journey. The Province again was accessible from the sea, and a great portion of the maritime commerce was in the hands of the Arabs. Satgaon, Sonargaon and Chatgaon were great emporia of trade, contained a numerous Mussulman population, and were centres from which they spread through the adjoining districts. Serviceable females are freely exported and imported in Christendom, as our great cities know to their cost. They are a recognised article of commerce in all countries under Mahomedan sway. Girls must have been imported through these channels, for those who were inclined to matrimony of sorts. There has been some admixture with the native Hindu element. So much the more liberal they, and the better for the country! There was no economic pressure, however. The Vilayeti male and female immigrants multiplied fast enough and in numbers enough, for the wants of their community. It is only in the institutions of polygamy and divorce and other cognate institutions of Islam, allowing males a large range of sexual liberality, that there was room for sanguinous commingling. In point of fact, the cumulative action of these causes must have been very limited. As a rule, the new-comers married among themselves, chiefly in their own families.

Coming now to the question of conversions, it must be admitted that, often and again, the blind boy was responsible for changes of faith. A licentious soldiery would not be overscrupulous in annexing females in a conquered country. With more settled Government, love-affairs would arise now and then, in which the 'he' or the 'she' was a heathen, and as the follower of Islam could in no way be gathered to the fold of Hinduism, the follower of the latter religion, of whichever sex, would have to swell the number of the followers of Islam. It was a common practice with many Mahomedan rulers to reprieve an unbelieving felon condemned to death, if he offered to embrace the true faith, and the love of life is so strong in the human breast that many men might be expected to close with the offer. Other Hindus, again, occasionally embraced the faith of Islam, not from fear of death, but from motives of ambition, in order to rise in favor with the ruling authorities and to obtain posts which were not ordinarily open to non-Mahomedans. We do not believe in any wholesale conversions of the people at the point of the sword effected during the Mahomedan period, and we think that the grounds of actual conversion, which we have enumerated above, do not at all necessarily imply that the converted were all members of the lowest and most degraded castes. On the contrary, the causes are such as to lead to the inference that a good portion of them must have belonged to the superior castes.

The poorer classes were, as now, placed, by their

very poverty, above the lax influences just mentioned. The present condition and appearance of many Mahomedan peasants may be accounted for, on the supposition of a gradual degeneracy, owing to the want of means and education, without abrogating their real origin. Place a number of families of pure European extraction in the *kintals* of Calcutta, expose them to the same privations and manner of life as the low classes of natives, by whom they are surrounded, and with whom they are compelled to mix, and in a few generations, without any cross-breeding, their issue will be, in manner and appearance, undistinguishable from their neighbours. As a fact within our own observation, the Mahomedan masses, though speaking the same vernacular and being of Bengal thoroughly Bengali, are yet distinguished by moral and physical characteristics from the same classes of the Hindu population. In spite of centuries of adverse circumstances and of grinding poverty, they still carry in them the proof of their nobler foreign extraction.

DEFECTIVE DRAINAGE AND SHOW SANITATION.

THE late rains have exposed the weakness of our drainage system. There is no proper drainage able to cope with, even a normal rainfall. A complete breakdown ensues whenever the weather is of an exceptional kind. Certainly, not for the first time, has this fact been driven home by the rains, the effects of which have not yet subsided. The liability of the country to inundation is chronic. The general flood which compelled the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to venture out on a Steamer excursion over large tracts of his territory, while in a critical state of health, taught the lesson in a more unmistakable manner. There is no year without its more or less general inundation, causing injury to crops, house property and even to life. All the harm, however, from the present inundation or of past years—all the popular excitement under the visitations, would not have been in vain, if they opened the eyes of those who are responsible for the protection of the country, to the necessity of overhauling existing arrangements. What account can the Sanitary Department give of work turned out by it, in return for the people's salt it has eaten so long? Has it shown any better preparedness than other authorities? For some latrines the fewer constructed in a municipality, it flies into a terrible passion and invokes the thunders of official Jupiter on the devoted heads of the Municipal Commissioners. But has it had a word of remonstrance with Railway Companies for often destroying the natural drainage of the country by their embankments? Has it taken District officers, who practically are the District Boards, to task, for neglecting drainage in their rage for road-making and tree-planting? Latrines and urinals may be all very well for "model" municipal towns, but cannot they wait till more really pressing wants have had attention? And then as to municipal drainage, has it not been all along a reproach to all concerned? It is mere mockery, which would be harmless were not the funds, wasted upon it, badly wanted for more useful things. Indeed, one can hardly have patience with the fashion of municipal drainage which is in vogue. There is a large establishment of *dhangar* coolies and overseers, paid from year's end to year's end for doing hardly any real work at all, or work of at best a fancy character. Small weeds and plants growing on the surface

drains of main thoroughfares seem to be the veriest abominations to sensitive municipal eyes, and the so-called drainage staff is persistently engaged in a ceaseless war of extermination against this unruly race. The chief object is, the roads must have a neat and tidy appearance. The more retired parts of the town may be overgrown with rank vegetation—the drains in the interior may be full of foul stagnant water—the ponds choked with weeds and mere receptacles of black poisonous water. But these are none of its care. No Sanitary Commissioner—no district officer ever strays out of the line of the main roads into these vile recesses. The main roads then must look fine and elegant, and there must be no grass or calladiums allowed to grow on their sides for fear of offending the delicate sensual organs of official inquisitors, and bringing down a thundering reproof like the one administered to Dr. Mitra of Serampore. It is a perfect waste of money—municipal drainage is a misnomer. The money so spent would far more usefully open out the natural watercourses—*khals*, *nullahs*, and river-beds, which are invariably silted up everywhere, and nobody—municipal Committees or District Boards or the Sanitary Department—seems to regard their reclamation with any attention. This system of official drainage—of official sanitation—has now continued too long to be endured any longer. It may be fashionable to reproach the older generations with barbarous ignorance of sanitary science, but they, at any rate, kept the natural water-courses a-going, and saw that the artificial drainage which they built was not neglected, in the pursuit of objects of a *dilettanti* character. Who, now, we ask, are responsible for the present state of things?

Let the answer be given to the above query. There is a system of authorities rising on an ascending scale from the rural, through urban, departmental and provincial, to the Imperial. There is a like series of all manner of taxes and impositions. So far as organization is concerned, nothing could be more symmetrical. Taxation could not be more thorough and far-reaching. And now, as if this were not enough—as if it were any deficiency in organization or taxation that was responsible for the admitted failure of the system, there is a grave proposal for setting on foot Provincial Sanitary Boards and instituting some fresh sanitary imposts. We have no faith in a multiplicity of servants. The more your servants, are you not often the worse served? Nor is there any want of funds at the disposal of the different authorities. The want of funds so loudly complained of, is a creation of extravagance—of misdirected zeal for fancy schemes of ideal improvements, which, however good they may be, ought surely to wait till more real wants have been adequately supplied. It is a disgraceful state of unpreparedness everywhere which the late rains have brought to light. Even municipal towns in the Suburbs of Calcutta, like those of Baranagar, Rajpur, Joynuggur, Dum-Dum and Barrackpore, have remained for days together under water. The culverts in the Railway embankments showed grave structural defects and refused to work. The beds of the natural canals have been allowed to be encroached upon by whomsoever cared to do so, the chief delinquent being of course the great Railway system. But it represents European capital, and is a formidable power. The Sanitary Department, which can lash poor native Municipal Commissioners, is all tenderness in the presence of such a mighty institution. Who shall help us?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

MILITARY MAGISTRACY.

BARRACKPORE.

The quiet subdivision of Barrackpore has been stirred to its depths, by the huge defalcations made by Shahadut Khan, Tax-collector of the Cantonment Fund and of the South Barrackpore Municipality. This man was a Duftry attached to the Dum-Dum Magistracy under Colonel Hopkinson, who took a fancy for him, and one fine morning the Khan Sahib awoke as the Tax-collector of the South Barrackpore Municipality under its official Chairman, the military huzoor of Barrackpore, on a salary of Rs. 25 a month. When a British official, and a military officer to boot, is bent upon doing a thing, good, bad or indifferent, he laughs at obstacles. In a few months more, the *quondam* office menial was appointed, in addition to his other fiscal post, Tax Darogah of the Cantonment Fund on an additional pay of Rs. 25 a month. All this time Grish Chunder Ganguly was the Tax-collector of the Cantonment Fund on a pittance of Rs. 15 a month! But Colonel Hopkinson with one stroke of his pen reduced the pay of the poor Brahman and placed him under the orders of the low Moslem. It happens that no disbursements by way of establishments can be made without the sanction of the Commander-in-Chief, and such sanction was withheld. Undeterred by this unforeseen difficulty, Colonel Hopkinson suffered the Tax collector to deduct his pay from the collections and to remit the balance to the Treasury. Consequently, the arrangement was unsuspected by the military authorities. Colonel Hopkinson got a lift and left Barrackpore, when Major Sterndale officiated for him, during which time he compelled Shahadut Khan to deposit Rs. 500 as his security for the faithful discharge of his duties. Colonel Hopkinson reverted to his former appointment at Barrackpore and returned Rs. 300 to Shahadut Khan, retaining only Rs. 200 in his hand as security. Colonel Hopkinson has now issued a warrant, for the arrest of the absconding Tax Darogah. The exact amount which the Darogah has run away with has not yet been ascertained, the gallant Colonel thinks that only Rs. 100 has been defalcated, but the rumour is that 4 to 5 thousand rupees has been robbed by Shahadut. It is to be borne in mind that the Cantonment Fund, unlike the local funds, is not audited by the local fund auditor as is provided for by the cantonment rules. The true extent of the defalcation cannot be ascertained without a thorough overhauling of the accounts by an expert. It is therefore desirable to scan the accounts.

Shahadut Khan was a sort of Hobson's choice to the timid and weak-kneed Commissioners. They passed votes of want of confidence, recorded resolutions, but alas! they could not get rid of Shahadut Khan. It is said that this man has also robbed nearly Rs. 700 from the South Barrackpore Municipality. From what has appeared above, Mr. Editor, I think I rightly interpret the feeling of the people here when I say that they will have no confidence whatever in the arrangement if the man Shahadut be tried by his patron Colonel Hopkinson.

JUSTITIA.

The 11th September, 1888.

THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA'S ATTACK ON THE INDIAN MAHOMEDANS.

A VINDICATION OF THEIR ORIGIN.

SIR,—English education is working wonders. It has rescued the *Paramaniks* and *Ghorbes* from their low position in society. Their brethren the *Chandals* and even the uncivilized hill tribes are rapidly rising from their degraded position and following in the footsteps of the enlightened barbers, milkmen and others of the sort. The editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, whose descent could be traced from his family name, seems to totally forget his own origin and assumes the garb of a high-born. Those who have seen the editor will scarcely require elaborate genealogic proof. Notwithstanding his high English attainments and presumptuousness, he has at last appeared to the public in his true colours. To hide his own questionable origin and shame, he has boldly played the part of the fox without a tail in finding faults with the origin of those in the veins of most of whom the Arab and Rajput blood runs. Your Bag-bazar contemporary seems to have had no opportunity to study the history of the country of which he prides to be called a patriot. It is true that there is no Indian history to be had written by one of his caste men, for they were too insignificant and barbarous creatures during the times of Hindu and Mahomedan supremacy to be able to write any history of those periods. But I hope that this will not stand in the way of the said editor's believing in the truth of the statements of the Indian historians of the time. Now, for the edification of your contemporary, I wish to mention that the Mahomedan rulers were not like the English rulers. The former

made this country their home, whereas the latter are averse to stay here. It must be perceptible to the dullest minds that when the Mahomedan rulers made this country their home, thousands of Arabs, Persians, Tartars, Afghans and Beloochis came down to this country and settled themselves here. Most of these warriors and learned men married the daughters of the respectable high-caste Rajputs, and many of the Rajput families embraced the faith of Islam. If it is possible for the Christians, within only one hundred years of the British rule when the Europeans are not to reside here permanently, to have hundreds of thousands of the followers of the Cross in India, would it be impossible then to count the number of Indian Mahomedans by millions and millions during the long period of the Mahomedan supremacy in this country? And were it to be doubted that there had been some millions of respectable Mahomedan families settled in India? Besides the Syuds who are the descendants of the Prophet, there are the *Siddiqi*, *Osmani*, *Farooqi*, *Alawvi*, *Abbassi*, *Khalidi* and other Arabian *Sbaikh* families in abundance in India. There are also the descendants of the numberless Mahomedan emigrants referred to above, who now owing to their poverty form the bulk of the middle and low class Mahomedans of the present time. Moreover, what has the *Patrika* to say regarding the descendants of the converted Rajputs? The *Bazaree* editor of the *Amrita Patrika* says, "The higher castes resisted with life. The lower castes (meaning the chamars, domes &c.) yielded." Let the *Bazaree* now understand that the converted Rajputs belonged to a caste far superior to the one he himself belongs to, nay, even to the one his spiritual leader has the honor of belonging to. I fear the above will not suffice to make him perceive the error, he has so shamelessly committed by insinuating that the Mahomedans are of "low origin," for he confesses himself that, "a *chamar* will remain a *chamar* for centuries before it will be possible to make him understand the analysis of La Place." Just as all the labours of the Indian historians failed to make him understand the truth or prevent him basely and falsely traducing the respectable. The Mahomedans might, indeed, desist from taking the trouble of pointing out the absurdity of his statement, for he is himself playing the part of his own *chamar*. However, as a last attempt, I would like to draw his perverse attention to the following facts which will no doubt remind him of his own origin and make him desist in future from vituperating his betters in the unjournalistic manner as he has recently done.

Are not the descendants of the daughters of the Mahomedans of Jodhpur and Jaipur, who embraced the faith of Islam, still in existence? Were they the daughters of the "domes" and "chamars" as hinted as by the *Patrika*? Is it not a historical fact that, during the wars between the Mahomedans and the Hindus, innumerable beautiful ladies of the respectable Hindu families were captured and married by the conquerors? Where are the descendants of these beauties of Hind? Can any one deny that the forefathers of Nawab Faiz Ali Khan, the Minister of the Maharajah of Jaipur, were not high-caste Rajputs? As the *Bazaree* himself is an inhabitant of Bengal, it will be beneficial to him to remember some instances of the nature in Bengal itself. Formerly, there were *Bara Bhoosians*, in Eastern Bengal. One of them was Isa Khan Bhoosian, who was a Rajput at first, but subsequently became Mahomedan and fought unsuccessfully against the army of the Emperor Akbar. After the complete subjugation of Bengal, the Emperor made Isa Khan the chief of all the Bhoosians and conferred on him the title of "Dewan." This Bhoosian was the Zemindar of Hybutnager in Mymensingh. His descendants are still alive. But the Hybutnager branch of the family has no male members at present. The last male member of this Branch was Dewan Allah Nawaz Khan. The Junglebari Branch of it has Dewan Rahman Dad Khan as its principal member. The famous Zemindars of Sarail were Dewan Noor Ali, Dewan Zahoor Ali and others, who were the descendants of a Rajput family, but after embracing the faith of Islam they received the title of "Dewan." When Nawab Saadut Ali Khan of Lucknow was at Dacca, he went to Sarail to see them. Their descendants are still alive. In Sylhet, there were the Zemindars of Baniachong who were Rajputs and called themselves Rajahs. When they embraced the faith of Islam, they received the title of "Dewan" and retained the title of Rajah in the form of "Ruza." The last important member of the family was Dewan Nusrut Ruza. In the town of Sylhet itself, there is Haji Hamid Bukht Mujmooadar, Khan Bahadoor, the extra-Assistant Commissioner of Sylhet. For the last eleven generations, the members of his family have been Mahomedans. His Hindu forefathers held the respectable post of "Mujmooadar" from the Emperor of Delhi. The post being a hereditary one, it descended to his family. Besides this Branch, there is in Sylhet another Hindu Branch of the original family, which is known under the designation of "Dustcedar." In this manner, there are many respectable families in Sylhet whose members are Mahomedans as well as Hindus. Within the jurisdiction of the Madaripore Sub-Division, there was formerly the Rajah family of Oojeen. A branch of this family embraced the faith of Islam and one of its members

was the well known Zemindar Maniruddin Khan, the owner of the Telechutty Pergunnah in Furreedpore. His daughter was married to the son of Azim Chowdhary of Pubna. In almost all the districts in the North-Western and Eastern Bengal, there are good many families of the above description. In Benares, Kakaram Shastari and Jagunnath Shastari were great Pundits of their time. The grandson of the former, named Ishari Pershad Shastari, has inherited the intrinsic merits of his grandsire and has few equals in the theological knowledge of the Hindus. He is now a Mahomedan and is daily preaching at the Wellington Square. He goes under the name of Pandit Gholam Mahomed. The *Bazarree* ought to keep this in mind that intellectual culture is essentially required to understand the dogmas and tenets of the Faithful. Therefore, his "chamar," "dome" and other lower caste Hindus were not and are not fit individuals to believe in the *unseen* God and the miracles of the long departed Prophet. I can show many instances of *Brahmins* and *Kayastas* having embraced the faith of Islam. The few that I have already narrated will, I think, not easily be digested by the *Pat*, without doing injury to his health. For further information, I would refer the *Bazarree* to the Urdu book called *Tohfatul Hind* and others of the kind.

SHARAFUT.

September 20, 1888.

MONGHYR.

Jamalpore, Sep. 17.

Cholera has abated in the European quarter but assumed an epidemic form in the native portion of the town (Mongroorah), several fatal cases having occurred among the Beharies (both male and female.) The Overseer attached to the local Municipality was in trouble a few days ago, having been prosecuted under Section 371 of the Penal Code. The case has been dismissed. Mr. Paulit (junior) Barrister-at-law defended the Overseer.

There is great dissatisfaction amongst the native rate-payers of Jamalpore Municipality, owing to the peremptory notice given by

beat of drum to the effect, that the rate-payers will have to call at the Municipal Office and pay six months' vat tax within a week, otherwise warrants will be issued. When the Municipality undertook the charge of the latrines in the 1887, *i. e.*, say from October last, it was fixed there and then that an additional tax of three-half per cent. for vat and three-half per cent for latrine in addition to the house tax, making a total of 14 per cent in all, would be levied. The rate-payers agreed to the terms and have been paying the same without grumble or grudge. The additional vat tax is certainly an extortion. As I understand, it is levied on measurement only, *i. e.*, first 2 feet at 2 annas each foot and the subsequent additional foot at 1 anna. The present exorbitant taxation appears to the ratepayers in general, to be an innovation, seeing that it does not exist in the metropolis of Calcutta, its suburbs or in other important towns, such as Howrah, Hooghly, Burdwan, Moorsheda-bad, &c. A number of applications have been submitted to the chairman, protesting against it. Let us see how the matter ends. The people are in a fix. They constructed vats both of large and small sizes not knowing that fresh taxation would be levied. If sanitary improvement of the town be aimed at, can no means be devised by which the water from the dwelling houses be removed freely? Will not a pucca drainage system remedy the evil complained of? Is it not hard to compel persons to pay by measurement in addition to what they are now paying?

The recent floods which caused the surrounding lands on the bank of the river in Monghyr to be submerged, are gradually receding.

The prospects of the crops are very bad and much alarm is felt.

The prices of food grains have considerably risen and show a tendency to further rise.

The new Box system of payment to E. I. R. Company's workmen, &c., has, of late, been introduced, as a tentative measure, both in the Locomotive works here, as well as in the Company's Colliery at Giridih, after the example of London works. The process appears to be a satisfactory one as regards shortening the time taken in payment.

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Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

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NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

*Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.***Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"**

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—*The Indian Magazine*, Mar. 1888.

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. {

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1888.

} No. 343

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

LETTERS OF THE DEAD.

TO LIVIA.

I.

How few the moons since last, immersed
In thoughts of fev'rish, worldly care,
My casket's heap'd contents reversed,
I sought some scroll I wanted there ;
How died at once abstraction's air—
How fix'd my frame, as by a spell,
When on thy lines, so slight, so fair,
My hurrying glance arrested fell !

II.

My soul that instant saw thee far
Sit in thy crown of bridal flowers,
And with Another watch the star
We watch'd in vanish'd vesper hours.
And as I paced the lonely room,
I wonder'd how that holy ray
Could with its light a world illumine
So fill'd with falsehood and decay.

III.

Once more—above those slender lines
I bend me with suspended breath—
The hand that traced them now reclines
Clasp'd in th' unclosing hand of Death.
The worm hath made that brow its own
Where Love his wreath so lately set ;
And in this heart survive alone
Forgiveness—pity—and regret.

IV.

'T was 'mid the theatre's gay throng—
Life's loveliest colors round me spread—
That mid the pauses of a song,
I caught the careless "*She is dead !*"
The gaudy crowd—thy sudden grave—
I shrank in that contrasting shock,
Like midnight listener by the wave,
When splits some bark upon the rock.

V.

This Early Death—within its pale
Sad air each angry feeling fades—
An evening haze, whose tender veil
The landscape's harsher features shades.
Ah, Scornful One—thy bier's white hue
Stole every earth-stain from thy cheek,
And left thee all to Memory's view
That Hope once dared in thee to seek.

THE MONASTERY.

To some hath God his words addressed
'Mid symbols of his ire ;
And made his presence manifest
In whirlwind, storm and fire ;
Tracing with burning lines of flame
On trembling hearts His holy name.

By some the awful tones are heard
In bowers where roses blow ;
And where the heart's sweet thoughts are stirred
With music's magic flow ;
Young bosoms there in joy's full hour
Have turned to God and owned his power.

To some the solemn voice has spoken
In life's serene retreat ;
Where on the still heart sounds have broken
As from the Mercy-Seat,
Swelling in the soft harmonies
Which float on evening's tranquil breeze.
But chiefest when the heart is crushed
By sin or sorrow's power ;
And each sweet voice of comfort hushed
Which soothed in happier hour :
Oh ! chiefest to the sufferer's ear
That still, small voice is ever near.

For human tears, like spring's soft shower,
To human heart are given
To quicken with their balmy power
The blessed seeds of Heaven ;
And flowers of bright, immortal bloom
Burst from the darkness of the tomb.

TRANSLATIONS.

TO MY LADY'S EYES.

MADRIGAL.

(From the Spanish of *Gutierrez de Cetina*.)

"*Ojos claros serenos*," &c.

O Eyes, serene and clear,
That are to me so dear,
Whose sweet aspect so wins the general praise,
Why, only when on mine
You turn your gaze divine,
Should anger and disdain seem flashing in your rays ?
When best soft tenderness
Their beauty doth express,
Why should for me alone your look be pitiless ?
Yet, Eyes, serene and clear,
That are to mine so dear,
If in your glance for me,
Nothing but scorn must be,
This only boon I pray,
Look scornful on me still, rather than look away !

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

EPIGRAM.

(From the Spanish of *Bartolome de Argensola*.)

"Quatro dientes te quedaron," &c.

Ella, you had, a month ago,
Just four teeth left, or I misreckoned :—
One fit of coughing shook out two,
And t'other pair a second.

Cough boldly now, when you've a mind,
To fear results there's no more reason ;
For a third fit can never find
Another tusk to seize on.

THE SWAN AND THE EAGLE.*

[From the German of *Schlegel*.]

THE SWAN.

My tranquil life is passed the waves among,
Light ripples tracing as I glide along ;
And the scarce ruffled wave, as in a glass,
Reflects my form unaltered, as I pass.

THE EAGLE.

In the clefts of the rock my wild dwelling I form,
I sail through the air on the wings of the storm ;
'Mid dangers and combats I dart on my prey,
'And trust the bold pinion that bears me away.

THE SWAN.

Won by the charm of Phœbus, in the wave
Of heavenly harmony I love to lave ;
Couched at his feet I listen to the lays
In Tempe's vale that echo to his praise.

THE EAGLE.

I perch at the right hand of Jove on his throne,
And the thunderbolt launch when his signal is shown ;
And my heavy wings droop, when in slumber I lie,
O'er the sceptre that sways the wide earth from on high

THE SWAN.

Me charms the heaven's blue arch serene and bland,
And odorous flow'rs attract me to the land ;
While, basking in the sun's departing beam,
I stretch my white wings o'er the purple stream.

THE EAGLE.

I exult in the tempest triumphant and bold,
When the oaks of the forest it rends from their hold.
I demand of the thunder—the spheres when it shakes—
If, like me, a wild joy in destruction it takes !

THE SWAN.

Oft in the glassy tide the stars I view,
And that calm heav'n the waves give back anew,
And dim regret recalls me to the home
In happier spheres, reluctant whence I roam.

THE EAGLE.

With joy, from the hour that my young life begun,
I have soared to the sky—I have gazed on the sun ;
I cannot stoop down to the dust of the earth ;
Allied to the gods, I exult in my birth.

THE SWAN.

When a calm death succeeds to tranquil life,
Its links detaching without pain or strife,
And to my voice restores its primal pow'r,
Its dying tones shall hail the solemn hour.

THE EAGLE.

The soul at its parting springs forth from the pyre,
All free and unveil'd to the skies to a spire,
To hail the bright vision that bursts on its view,
And its youth at the dark torch of death to renew !

* The eagle, in these lines, represents an aspiring, and the swan a contemplative genius.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

AFTER weeks of armed inaction, our troops attacked the Tibetans last Monday morning and drove them from their position, and occupied some passes.

THE latest date of Kabul news received by the Government of India is the 19th of September. Upon that and the previous day the Amir wrote news of the Turkestan disturbances. His Highness's forces are it is said advancing both beyond Khamard and Khinjan.

Ghulam Hyder, Orakzai reached Rui 12th.—Press Commissioner.

HUNMANT RAO has, after a protracted trial, been convicted of receiving bribes to influence Mr. Crawford, and sentenced to simple imprisonment for one year and a fine of Rs. 1000, in default, 3 months' additional imprisonment, on each of the two charges. The two other untried charges were withdrawn.

ON the application of Mr. Crawford, the Commission to try him has been postponed from the 7th to the 23rd October.

THE Viceroy will decorate at the summer capital the new holders of the Star of India now present at Simla.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab entertained Simla last week to a farewell dinner and ball to the departing Viceroy and Governor-General.

SIR CHARLES CROSTHWAITE held a public Durbar, last week, in the Tharrawaddy district.

CASHMERE has told off a detachment of the Durbar troops for the Black Mountain Expedition. Raja Ram Sing commands the co-operating Force.

MR. ATKINSON, of the P. W. D., and sometime past in the service of Cashmere making the road to Murree, has been selected for the post of Governor of Ladak.

MR. GODLEY, Permanent Under-Secretary, as President, and Sir John Strachey, Sir Alfred Lyall, Mr. Currie and Robert Hardie, as members, of the India Office, have been formed into a Committee to report on the Home charges.

THE India Office cost India more than £200,000 last year ending in March 1887. Thus—

Salaries of the Secretary of State, Under-Secretaries of State, Members of the Council of India, Secretaries and officers of the Secretary of State for India in Council, assistant Secretary of his Highness the Commander-in-Chief and clerk, consulting officer for the Indian troop service, two members of the London Medical Board, &c.	£137,782
Auditor and Assistants under Act 21 and 22 Vict., c. 106 and s. 52	£6,123
Postage of Despatches to and from India	£4,205
Telegrams to India	£7,901
Office Contingencies, Rates, Taxes, Coal, Gas, Candles, Furniture and Repairs, Books, Newspapers, Advertisements, Stamps, Inland Postage and Telegrams, Messengers' Uniforms and various petty charges	£11,792
India Office Pensions, Superannuation, Compensation, Com-passionate	£37,883
Various India Office Provident Funds, <i>net cost</i> ...	£12,813
Total	£218,501

And we are told India pays no tribute to England !

THERE is to be an electric railway in London—from the City side of London Bridge to the Swan at Stockwell.

BULLETS from the Lebel rifle do not lodge in the body but pass through it, bone and all, even when fired at a distance of 2,200 yards.

A HUMAN skeleton six feet long has been unearthed in a chalk pit on Portsdown Hill. It is said to be as old as the second century of the Christian era. The bones are in a good state of preservation and the teeth intact. In the left hand are twenty-two Roman coins. If this skeleton represented the average of humanity at the period, there has been a lamentable deterioration in physique in the British Islands.

AZAMGARH and the surrounding country for miles were flooded for days. The *makai* crop has been completely destroyed.

IN America, they have manufactured

"sham children, that will cry mechanically, and deter unwelcome passengers from mounting into the railway carriage which one wishes to keep to oneself. The advertisement mentions that these useful automations can be bought at the following scale of prices: 'Number One cries violently, with five gradations of sound, ten dollars. Number Two, prolonged doleful sobs, five dollars. Number Three gives sudden piercing screams, and is small enough to be put in the coat pocket, two dollars!'"

The makers of sham children will easily make sham patriots and "orating" platitudinarians. It would be an acquisition to many honest souls to have patent barrels having the human form producing set speeches and sermons. Such an invention would be a practical multiplication of popular preachers and stumpers of all kinds. The gouty or indolent might, by a moderate outlay, listen at home to the voice of their charmers and derive what edification is possible from such sources. The proCongress and antiCongress wire-pullers might see the advantage of ordering a large supply.

A CORRESPONDENT sends to the *People's Friend* the following extraordinary report:

"Alatur is a sub-division of the Taluq of Palghaud. The place is about 14 miles from the Palghaut city. Towards the south of this suburb is a hill, or ridge of hills known generally by the name of 'Viyu Malays.' It is believed that it is a branch of the Western-Ghats. In the month of July 1888 the country was blessed with such an abundance of rain from heaven that the whole country was inundated. At about 4 P. M. on a certain day, when there was a shower, noise like thunder was heard on the top of one of the hillocks in the above said ridge. The noise being continuous for a time, attracted a great number of people to the foot of the peak. There was seen a large column of fiery splendour surrounded with smoke, or what appeared to be smoke. The natives who witnessed it say that it was like a mass of fireworks set on fire and kept burning for a time. This vanished after a time and the rain ceasing to pour down in the meanwhile, there was leisure for the people to go to the top and examine the spot where the fiery column was perceived. They then observed the following changes in the physical aspect of the place.

1. A very large and massive teak tree that was growing firmly fixed by its strong roots to the ground, was removed from its place and placed against another tree in a living posture.

2. Two blocks of a great rock equal in size to 5 or 6 big elephants put together were removed from the spot occupied by them, and placed on both sides of a pathway that was cut right down from the top to the foot of the hill.

3. The pathway, the largest one, is now visible as a white macadamized road about 2 furlongs in length. There are two other similar pathways, but not so long and broad as this. These pathways did not exist there before.

4. The extremities of these paths is characterised by a pit about 2 feet deep and 8 feet in diameter.

5. After the phenomenon ceased, the weeds that have been removed from the fields in the valley below, and kept on the banks, were seen on the sides of the hill."

These freaks of Nature are enough to make the boldest hold their breath and the most careless to be anxious. Otherwise, it were not undesirable, in these days of financial tightness and distress, if kind Nature performed a miracle or two in our favour, purifying our atmosphere and making half a dozen really passable and useful Giants' Causeways and a score or two of Devil's Bridges. Sir Henry Harrison may take the hint; Father Lafont might be able to direct where to make the application. What a relief would it be to all concerned, to awake one morning and find that, during the rains overnight, Nature had made a clean sweep of Bara Bazaar and redistributed the streets, after widening them, on a geometrical plan!

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

AFTER a rather lengthy investigation, occasioned by the acceptance at first of the theory of suicide suggested by the family of the deceased, the Coroner's Jury returned yesterday a unanimous verdict of murder against the husband Soodhabode Bhuttacharjee, son of Jibananda Vidyasagar, for the death of Kristomanini, aged 11 years. Soodhabode, who was in Court when the verdict was pronounced, was arrested under a warrant of the Coroner and taken to the Deputy Commissioner for orders.

Mr. Lambert deserves credit for the zeal with which he had the case investigated by the Police, superseding one officer by another.

THE verdict of the Court on the death of Englebrecht only confirms the popular horror of our hospitals. In runs in these words:—

"That the deceased died from the inhalation of chloroform, through insufficient care being taken in the mode of its administration, and we consider that the question should have been put to the deceased by the medical officer as to his ever having suffered from any affection of the heart before the chloroform was given. We think that this presentment should be forwarded to Government, for such action as may be considered necessary to prevent any future accidents occurring."

Englebrecht would have been wiser to exhaust all available means before rushing to the Government hospital. There were many Indian nostrums, some of which might be tried with safety. For some time, a medicine is being advertised in our pages called Kamini Moni Davi's Mixture which is favorably spoken of. It is reported to have been successfully tried at the Campbell Hospital. Even the Madras Pile Doctors in the tiled huts, in the neighbourhood of Medical College and Hospital, were less to be feared than the regular professionals installed in the august medical palace. These Sammy Surgeons are sharp and decisive in their method. In one instance at least that we heard of—the patient being a clerk in the Asiatic Society—the result was as brilliant as in any case in the College itself, the end of the disease and all the ills that flesh is heir to following quick upon the conclusion of the operation. As a rule, however, these unrecognised practitioners are timid enough, acting under the fear of the people and the law. But for virtual chiralurgical irresponsibility and a free hand, commend us to the endowed State sawbones!

MR. MOYLAN has appealed to the High Court from the order of the Recorder withdrawing his certificate to plead in the Rangoon Courts. The Recorder laid much stress on the misconduct of Mr. Moylan while at Grenada, the Supreme Court whereof disbarred him.* There, in his capacity of solicitor, he appropriated to his own use costs he had recovered on behalf of the Grenada Government from the owners of the *Kathleen*.

ON the last Eed festival, at Dhubri, two Mahomedans having slaughtered a cow in the back-yard of their shop, in the bazaar, a Hindoo set up a cry of horrors. A great mob of Hindoos collected and rushing into the shop, seized the two outraging Moslems, belabouring them. The case is now before the Deputy Commissioner, Captain Gray, the Hindoos having been charged with criminal trespass, rioting, &c. The *Daily News*, from which we take the facts, says that the local Bar, which is composed entirely of Hindoos, refused to accept a brief on behalf of the Mahomedans, so that the latter were obliged to get up a Mahomedan Pleader of the Calcutta High Court to conduct their case. This conspiracy of lawyers is becoming a rather common complaint. Sometimes, it is, of course, a mere pretence, a pettifogging dodge to prejudice the opposite side. Thus, there was no sufficient foundation for Kallonas, when hauled up in court for belabouring the boy Satish, to say that he could get no legal assistance when Raja Surjikant, the friend of his family, was in town purposely to help him, when all the Raja's lawyers were at his service and were acting for him, and when the Government pleader himself, hearing of his complaint, offered him his services. But there are other cases in which such indecent combinations do take place. The High Court bar itself is not above such pettiness. We remember a case in which the leaders all declined to act. How is the country bar to be taught their duties if their superiors fail in theirs?

THE new municipal Act (II of 1888) comes into operation from the first of April 1889, but any election may be held under it in the meantime, taking effect with the commencement of the Act. For purposes of the Act, the boundaries of Calcutta have been extended to include the suburbs falling within

"A line drawn along the southern and western bank of the Circular Canal from the river Hooghly to the south of Ballighatta, till it meets the Pagladanga Road. Thence along the eastern edge of the Pagladanga Road to a point where it meets the Chingrahatta Road. Thence along the southern edge of the Chingrahatta Road to a point where it meets the South Tangor Road. Thence along the eastern edge of the South Tangor Road to a point where it meets the Topsea Road. Thence along the eastern edge of the Topsea Road to its junction with the Tiljullah Road. Thence westward to the South-Eastern Railway, then southward along the western edge of the line of the Railway, and westward along the south of the New Embankment to the Russapuglah Road, thence along the eastern edge of the Russapuglah Road to its junction with the Road leading to the Tollygunge Bridge,

thence along the southern edge of this road and its continuations, the Sharpore Road, the Goragachee Road, and the Taratollah Road to Nimuck Mehal Ghât, where it joins the Hooghly. And thence along the left bank of the Hooghly to its junction with the Circular Canal.

But from this area there shall be excluded—

- (1) Fort William.
- (2) The Esplanade.
- (3) That part of Hastings north of the south edge of Clyde Row, which has hitherto been excluded from the Municipality of the Town of Calcutta."

The local Government, however, reserves to itself power to exclude any portion or to add to the area of the new municipal town.

VICTORY to Sir Henry Harrison with whom are the Lords—of Earth! All's well that ends well, and the final, if tardy, ratification of his Municipal Bill at Simla is an event—a triumph—to him.

After four months' close scrutiny and deliberation by the Government of India, the Viceroy and Governor-General assented to the new municipal law for the town of Calcutta, on the 12th September last. As a result of that scrutiny also, the Hon'ble the Law member introduced on the 20th September in the Supreme Council a Bill to validate the Bengal law. The first section of the Bill, treating of the new municipal law passed for Bombay and Calcutta by the respective local legislatures, and the only section relating to our town, thus protects the excess powers the local council had assumed in its zeal for sanitary reform of the town:

"The City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, and the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act, 1889, shall, so far as regards—

- (a) the jurisdiction thereby conferred upon Appellate Benches of Municipal Authorities and upon Presidency and other Magistrates and Courts of Small Causes or any Judge of such a Court, and
 - (b) the decisions, orders and other proceedings of those Benches, Magistrates and Courts or of any such Judge,
- be as valid as if they had been passed by the Governor-General of India in Council at a meeting for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations."

Such is the sovereign doom and such the will of Jove!

But will the British Indian Association accept this ending of all their labors and struggles and hopes? And is this the reply of Olympus to the Surbaddhicary Mission?

Now that the constitutional objection is admitted, we confess to a lurking doubt whether the difficulty will be effectually met in this way. The defect is radical. The fiat *ultra vires* altering the boundaries of the capital can scarcely be protected by an erratum—an enactment corrective by another Chamber. It is of the nature of a word pronounced which cannot be withdrawn—*Et semel emissum volat irrevocabile verbum*.

The spectacle of such legislation cannot redound to the credit of those concerned. But India is a land of anomalies!

Meanwhile, they are busy preparing to work, without a moment's delay, as soon as the date comes, a law scarcely in being—being still in the womb awaiting a Cæsarian operation to make its *debut* in the world as a living child.

MR. KIRKPATRICK has opportunely published an "Index" to the new law. Elaborately drawn up, it cannot fail to be a help to the Municipal Commissioners and their officers and of great use to others who may have occasion to consult the law. The Commissioners have signified their appreciation of their Reporter's labors by ordering 250 copies of the book. When might we expect the Collector Mr. Dutt's edition of the Act?

It will not do to depend entirely on books and Gazettes, which are accessible to the few. We hope the Corporation will take early steps to make the residents and ratepayers acquainted betimes with the new powers entrusted to the municipality. The chief and important clauses ought to be freely circulated in the vernaculars, preparing persons for the revolutionary *régime*.

BABOO KALLY CHURN GHOSE, the Deputy Collector, has grown grey in the service of Government and is not without a reputation of a kind. He claims special experience in acquisition of land for his masters, and rests more on his own experience than the law under which it is to be acquired. Recently he has brought himself into special prominence in connection with the Kidderpore Docks and Calcutta town improvements and survey. There is scarcely a morning in which we do not find the Baboo's name in the papers. The native papers freely talk of his exceptional proceedings based on exceptional knowledge, in depriving owners of lands and houses for the new Docks. The English dailies have now taken up the cry and cry for and against the Deputy. The

Statesman published several cases in which the Baboo's offer of compensation has been doubled and trebled by the award of the Judge. The *Indian Daily News* has now come to his rescue. It says "The duty of the Deputy Collector here has been to arrive at a fair and conscientious estimate of what would constitute reasonable compensation to the property owners for compulsory deprivation of their lands for a public purpose." We have no mind to plunge into the discussion without full information. But the following from the proceedings of the Town Council of the Calcutta Corporation of the 18th August requires explanation.

"Proposed Sale of Surplus Land.—The Chairman submitted memo. by the Surveyor on the sale of the surplus land at No. 65-1 Mirzapore Street and No. 2 Putuatolah Lane. He explained that the Deputy Collector had acquired this surplus land in the interests of the Corporation, in order to have a straight road and to avoid payment of severance compensation, and offered to purchase it at the cost price of Rs. 6,600 which he had deposited. The owner of No. 2 Putuatolah Lane also offered to purchase the northern portion of the land fronting his house.

Baboo Soorendro Nath Banerjee would, according to the usual practice, sell to each of the parties the land in front of his house.

Baboo Durgagutty Banerjee was strongly of opinion that there had been grave irregularity in this matter: he did not think it right to accept the Collector's own award and sell the land to him at the price. It should either be resold to the owner, Baboo Dwarkanath Chuckerbutty, or be put up to public auction. He moved that the land be sold by public auction.

Baboo Omrita Nath Mitter remarked that the usual practice had not been followed on this occasion, inasmuch as land had been acquired by the Deputy Collector at his own instance without reference to the Commissioners.

Baboo Preonath Dutt also thought there had been great irregularity in these proceedings.

The Chairman on further consideration agreed that, as the value of the land had been fixed by the Collector, it would perhaps not be proper to sell it to him at his own valuation.

Baboo Jyogobind Law was also in favor of selling the land by public auction.

Baboo Durgagutty Banerjee's motion that the land be sold by public auction was put to the vote and carried."

The Surveyor's memo referred to runs thus—

"In reference to an application received from Baboo Kally Churn Ghose, our Collector under Act X of 1870, regarding purchase of the surplus land on the east of his house No. 65-1 Mirzapore Street and No. 2 Potuatolah Lane owned by Baboo Dwarka Nath Chuckerbutty, I beg to submit the following report.

In the plan prepared by the Engineer for connecting Potuatolah Lane with Mirzapore Street premises No. 65 Mirzapore Street were cut off almost diagonally. While preparing the estimate for submission to Government, I proposed the purchase of this surplus land to avoid payment of heavy damages for severance and prepared alternative plans and estimates.

The matter was again referred to the Engineer, and the plan was modified as shown by hatched lines. Baboo Kally Churn Ghose was in the mean time negotiating for the purchase of this very plot of land and he proposed to the Chairman to take up the additional land at cost price, to obviate the necessity for payment of any severance compensation. This proposal was approved of by you, and the acquisition has now been completed.

The land facing Mirzapore Street has been purchased at Rs. 1,300 per cottah, and that facing Potuatolah Lane at Rs. 1,000 per cottah.

The area of the surplus land is 4 cottahs and 2 chittacks, and Baboo Kally Churn Ghose has advanced Rs. 6,600 for payment of compensation for this land.

The owner of No. 2 Potuatolah Lane is now prepared to make an offer for the northern bit of the land, but considering the foregoing circumstances, the advantage the Corporation, and more specially the public, has gained in the straight road, mainly through Baboo Kally Churn, and furthermore the free use of his house, as land acquisition officer, is allowed, thus effecting a saving of Rs. 30 per month paid to his predecessor for office rent, I beg to recommend that the whole of the surplus land be sold to him at cost price, *viz.*, Rs. 6,600 calculating at Rs. 1,300 per cottah plus 15 per cent compensation plus cost of removal of huts and redemption fee."

The land was thus acquired under the Act not for the Municipality out of the Municipal Fund, but for the acquiring Collector out of his private purse. Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee showed his usual independence and sense of justice in the matter. It was a trial for him—an occasion of great delicacy; but he acquitted himself honorably. His brave resistance, supported by Baboos Omrita Nath Mitter and Preo Nath Dutt, prevented a scandalous job.

To give ample room and verge enough, to all races and creeds, the Indian Patriotic Association of Sir Ahmed, in opposition to the National Congress, has been re-christened the United Indian Patriotic Association. Is there so much virtue in a single word? Or, is "United" a Cabalistic term with which the great Wizard of the North hopes to conjure? A good name, like good looks, is an advantage to start with, to be sure. But then, a good-namer is as rare as a poet. "One word proves a poet," Christopher North used to say. So does a name. It is genius that takes in all the conditions of each case and hits on the fittest designation. No such superior faculty is discernible

in the present case. The former name was much too long without being expressive enough. The latter, though gaining in the two-fold suggestiveness of object—union—and locality—United Provinces—is still more trailing and straggling—not by any means with many a winding bout

Of linked sweetness long drawn out.

That word Association is simply a nuisance, suited, if at all, to the hissing Briton. Even educated Englishmen, when they are obliged to utter it too often and in too quick succession, in the course of a speech on the proceedings of a body so-called, are sorely tried and sometimes reduced to a fix. And yet such is our barrenness that, without relegating it to the list of the disused vocables, that formidable anti-buccal word is continually put in requisition in the nomenclature of co-operative organizations. It is the most respectable as well as popular designating term. No doubt, the poverty of the language accounts for this. It is this poverty that makes appeal to genius all the more necessary in such dilemmas. All allowances made, however, there is still an unaccountable partiality for the word. Perhaps, the vulgar respect for sounding phrase accounts for its use. Our chief objection to it is the difficulty of sounding it. "Patriotic" is only less of a stumbling block than "Association." And now they have put the last stick on the camel's back. The unpronounceability is complete. How many of the supporters of the movement, drawn as they will be chiefly from the classes who do not know English, will give its name correctly?

WE are glad to learn that Mr. J. Pratt, who did his duty so manfully in the Tangail case, in Mymensingh, is winning golden opinions in the district of Midnapore, where he has been posted. An intelligent, painstaking officer, he possesses, in an eminent degree, the energy and downright straightforwardness which characterize the best men of his race. He is also, to a very great extent, what the Greeks call "anthropologous," watching with sympathetic interest the affairs, and rejoicing in the progress, of the people among whom he lives and moves. The inhabitants would have been very glad, had it been possible for him to exchange places with the Magistrate of the District,

THE medical appointments threaten to be a blot on the escutcheon of the present Administration. There is little justice in the disposal of the minor patronage and an appearance of carelessness—to use no harsher word—in the changes in the higher offices. The other day, a meritorious officer of unblemished reputation was huddled out of Patna to fill a similar post at Dacca, at not only the sacrifice of well-established private practice but also a diminution of actual allowances. He left under protest, and we have not heard of the fate of his appeal to the Bengal Government. Nearer home, at the very capital, we have just had emphasised in the verdict of a Coroner's Jury the lesson of putting in the place of Dr. Macleod, gone on leave to Darjeeling, a raw officer. Dr. Jameson may be an able man, but skill in surgery comes of long experience, and the post of First Surgeon to the chief College should be reserved for approved experts. Nor is Dr. Walsh's appointment regarded as a happier one. And now we are not a little surprised to find that Dr. Gregg, and not Dr. K. P. Gupta, has been Gazetted to officiate for the Sanitary Commissioner Dr. R. Lidderdale, who is now on sick leave. Dr. K. P. Gupta had acted in this post for three months, when the latter took furlough in March last. He is not only senior to Dr. Gregg, but is the most experienced officer in the Sanitary Department, having served therein since June 1872. We may also observe that he is a most painstaking man, his inspection-returns shewing that he does every year as much as the work of three of his brother-officers. His liberal views in regard to Local Self-Government would have recommended him as *l'homme nécessaire* at this time. As an Indian, he is, of course, precluded from being Somebody's somebody.

ONE cannot help being amused at the derangement of relationships which results from alliances and counter alliances between different families.

The marriage of the Duke d'Aoste with the Princess Lactitia comes to create this curious situation.

In espousing her uncle, the Princess became the step-mother of her cousins, and aunt of the Prince of Naples, her cousin in the first degree. From niece, she became sister-in-law of the King and Queen of Por-

tugal and aunt of the Duke and Duchess of Braganza. She became sister-in-law of her mother in marrying her brother.

The Duke d'Aoste became the son-in-law of his sister and of his brother-in-law, brother-in-law of his nephews, and nephew of his brother and of his sister.

This is frightful, is it not? But the members of the European royal caste need not hang down their heads so long as they have the Indian kings of men, the Kulin Brahmans of Bengal to keep them in countenance.

THE City of Charnock (whose name it bears) and home of Orator Surrender Not, is not famed for wisdom. Therefore, it is with all the more surprise, we have read a well-written and well-reasoned representation from that quarter to the Lieutenant-Governor, not disfigured by extravagance of thought or language. The document begins, awkwardly enough, with the prayer. But this and other defects of form may be passed over in a Bengalee state-paper, in generous recognition of its substantial good sense. Barrackpore proper is an old cantonment of the Bengal Army, under a Cantonment Magistrate, who is usually a military officer. But the neighbouring townships and villages also constitute a sub-division in the civil administration of the Province. There is, however, no separate civil officer over it. The two jurisdictions are lumped together, and placed under the same officer, that officer being the Cantonment Magistrate. Thus the sub-division is joined to, or practically merged in, the Cantonment Magistracy. This is doubtless an anomaly. Such an arrangement cannot but be faulty. The only thing that can be urged in its favor is that it arose naturally out of circumstances. The town of Barrackpore has a history. It was one of the earliest settlements of the British, having been founded by the founder of Calcutta and about the time. At the very beginning of the century, Wellesley the Magnificent established his country seat and park there. Then the Ishapore Powder Mills were fixed in its neighbourhood. These facts constitute cumulatively a strong presumption in favour of European British rule at such a place. And so the presumption was acted upon. But since then, *on a changé tout cela*, and the presumption scarcely holds good now. New interests have arisen, the population has vastly increased in number and even more in education and self-respect. A military rule over a civil population is always an anomaly; over an unmartial people, it must be even more intolerable. In Barrackpore Sub-Division at this time of day, it is an anachronism. On the other hand, it is to be borne in mind that the military rule is more in name than in reality. The population is under the law of the land, that is, civil law not military. The administrator is for the time being a military officer. His acts are under the supervision of the District courts and the High Court, besides the Executive Government, though, of course, in summary cases his decision, like that of other Magistrates, is final. The present incumbent has been at his post for many years and has presumably acquired some judicial experience and more local knowledge, with possibly some local bias, and we do not wonder at the sympathy felt for him by many of the inhabitants. In justice to them, we publish in another column an authenticated letter. This is, however, not a question in which local sympathy is not necessarily a paramount factor, and we are sure the Bengal Secretariat will decide it on its true merits.

In this connection, we fear Colonel Hopkinson has been unfortunate in his favorites. We are sure he will not try to shield the Tax Daroga who stands charged with embezzlement. If he do, Government will not permit him. We trust the District Magistrate has his eye on the mayor.

BAPU SAHIB JADON has been placed in charge of the office of President of the Council of Regency, under the orders of the Agent, Governor-General in Central India.

WE are glad to be informed that there is no danger of an English succession to the place of the late Sir Ganput Rao.

THE ills that life is heir to! how true is the language of the poet! And who of us is permitted to forget the fact? A good doctor is, therefore, a boon we can all appreciate. Our advertisement columns announce the addition of such a one to the army of alleviators of suffering from sickness, and of possible rescuers from death. We give him a cordial

welcome. He has set up in our immediate neighbourhood, in fact next door to us—all the merrier! Mr. J. N. Mitra, to whom we refer, is a gentleman of ability and experience. A brilliant graduate of the Calcutta Medical College, he won the gold medals in Medicine and Hygiene and certificate of General Proficiency. Having obtained his diploma, he went and took his finishing in Europe. In 1881, he passed as Licentiate of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and as Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries of London, returning in the following year with the degree of M.R.C.P. This membership of the Royal College of Physicians of London, is no nominal compliment given for fees paid, like so many medical titles or other distinctions, but an honor awarded after a searching and difficult examination. Accordingly, the list of members is not crowded like those of other Societies chartered to grant titles. The year in which Dr. Mitra passed, 1882, only another Indian passed. In all, there are up to date only five Indian M. R. C. P.s, London. The distinction is highly prized in Great Britain. The status of the examination may be estimated from the fact that Dr. McConnell, the Indian pathologist, went home and obtained the membership in 1883. Dr. Birch, the veteran physician and surgeon in charge of the General Hospital, passed in 1886 only. We enter into these details in order to afford a clue to the proper position of the newcomer, as the letters at the end of the names of these gentlemen are apt to confound the general public.

Dr. Mitra has had a fair experience in practice. He has been Superintendent of a Quarantine station. In Bengal, he has been in charge of the Maisadal Hospital, which he left with the highest credit. Year after year, the District and Divisional officers gave the most satisfactory reports of the institution, and of the appreciation of the doctor's services.

Such a medical man is, we take it, a distinct acquisition to the neighbourhood, we may say to the town generally.

A BOY picked up a shining pebble in the hills near Kandy, in Ceylon. A knowing Cingalese wheedled it out of the boy for a few dollars. It was a prize—a godsend. For the pebble proved to be a prodigious cat's-eye. He showed it to a jeweller who offered to take it off his hands at a profit, and try his luck. The first purchaser was tempted with Rs. 100, afterwards Rs. 150, then Rs. 200, next Rs. 300, until the offer was raised to Rs. 500. That was indeed a fabulous bait for an article for which the owner had paid a few shillings. But the man had had some inkling of the value of his possession. It was not till he had received Rs. 750 that he parted with it. The new purchaser next sold it for Rs. 4,500. The present owner will, it is said, get between Rs. 9,000 and Rs. 10,000, but not before he has had it cut. There is some risk in the process, however.

Some fifty years ago, a poor peasant in the Dacca district, in ploughing his field, turned up a rare diamond which passed through several hands and finally sold for Rs. 70,000, and then became the subject of a protracted litigation. The original finder claimed restitution or the full value, on the ground that he had been induced to part with it on fraudulent misrepresentation. In the course of appeal, the case was compromised.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1888.

THE RISKS OF SOCIAL REFORM!

THE LAST BERHAMPORE SCANDAL.

A MORNING contemporary gives publicity to the following:—

"The native papers of Bengal publish a very sensational statement to the effect that Mr. Allen, the Assistant District Superintendent of Police, Berhampore, on the night of the 27th ultimo, trespassed into the house of Mr. N. G. Mookerjee, agricultural officer of the place, in his absence, with a criminal intention, that is, to outrage the modesty of Mrs. Mookerjee. The other male members of the house being apprised of the impending calamity vehemently opposed Mr. Allen's attempts to entering forcibly into the chamber in which Mrs. Mookerjee slept, and after great difficulty, they succeeded in saving her from the hand of the police Pongo, by removing her, with her babes, into the house of the Sub Judge of the place. The matter being reported to the Magistrate of the District, he, after communicating with the Government, transferred Mr. Allen to another district."

The matter is a month old, and yet no contradiction has appeared to the "sensational statement of the Native papers of Bengal." It is time enough for non-Native papers to speak, is it not? Perhaps it is reserved for the bolder organs of Indo-Saxony to come to the rescue of national honor and represent the European Police official as the victim of Native mendacity and of the Lieutenant-Governor's weakness in listening to Native complaints. The *Indian Daily News*, from which we quote the paragraph, is not British and bumptious enough, however much he may, at any time, have been tempted to give himself the airs of "manifest destiny," or indulge in tall talk of the rights of *Magna Charta*, to the ends of the earth. In the present case, indeed, there is no trace of sympathetic leaning towards the hero of the adventure. If anything, our contemporary's alliterative characterisation of the amorous Police Superintendent rather points the other way. But why call him "the Police Pongo" rather than the Police parallelogram? In the Mediaeval Legend of St. George, the Pongo is an amphibious monster of Sicily, a sort of sea-tiger, who devoured all the inhabitants within an area of twenty miles, until he was destroyed by the saintly warrior's three sons. Surely, there is nothing in common between the horrible man-eater and the unknighly knight of the Bengal Constabulary. It is rather difficult to think of an analogue, at once dignified and sufficiently true. The Police is a great institution everywhere—in this country, the Police is a formidable power. Nevertheless, the imagination of the poet would be staggered to invest an Assistant Superintendent of Police with dignity. Had it been the great Inspector-General or even his Vice of the Railway, we might recall the Olympian Indra sneaking under a cloud into the bed-room of Danaë. We have never seen Mr. Allen, and have no idea of what sort of thing he is, but the Junior District Superintendence is usually reserved as the stepping-stone into the service for beardless scapegraces, or else we might call this amorous Ass in presence of the District Police a Blue-beard.

Berhampore, we see, is becoming rather a notorious civil station for the morals of its official residents. In former times, when it was a military cantonment to watch the Mahomedan Court in the neighbourhood, its life was enlivened by the usual scandals—loves and hates, drunken brawls and bloody duels. Fifty years ago, the freaks of a drunken Prince, a prodigal Rajaling and a brilliant Political and the intrigues of their *entourage* brought the reputation of the place to its lowest ebb. Then came a change. Latterly, indeed, the riders and drivers in the streets of the European town were occasionally arrested by the spectacle of a grave dignitary of the bench in his shirt only, running about in his garden, behind the low front wall, brandishing a naked sword, with his poor wife screeching after him and the terrified native servants fleeing before. His career was, however, soon cut short by a new Lieutenant-Governor. Since then, all had been quiet, until the year before last, when the orgies of a couple of natives in the Judicial Service, culminating in the outrage of one of them on the wife and daughter of the other, his host, and his deserved punishment at the hands of the servants and neighbours, caused the greatest sensation throughout the country. We have hardly had time to forget that scandal, before all the evil memories of the town are revived by a European officer, specially charged with the duty of detecting and prosecuting

offenders, being caught trespassing, at dead of night, into the apartment of a native lady, sleeping with her infants in her own house, during the absence of her husband away on duty in the country.

The incident affords a fine handle to the Native Press for painting the British monster, armed with the prodigious irresponsible powers and backed by the prodigious prestige of the Police, coming down on the fold, at dead of night, and seizing the female lambs for prey, and sacrificing to his lust the honor of the miserable meek subjects of the Crown. The new ventures in illustrated journalism, may indeed welcome it as an opportunity for affording their readers, jaded with pictorial representations of the man-eating and woman-seizing Planter and the horrors of Tea cultivation, a variety in the shape of cartoons of the Police Sahib in the character of the thief of native honor—the invader of Hindu homes—the outrager of the modesty and destroyer of the innocence of the women of India. But great as may be the temptation, we do earnestly trust our contemporaries will resist it. In fact, it is to prevent any such result, that we have recalled the native scandals in the same station. But the case is not without its lesson for us, and we wish our people would find it and lay it to heart. About the case itself, we know nothing, beyond what we find in the papers or given in the above extract. But, believing that the injured husband is the same who figured as a witness, in the notorious Pigott-Hastie case, under the name of Nitu Mookerjee, we think the Hindu community has little reason to make common cause of his grievance. It is not strictly a Hindu affair on any side, considering that Mr. Mookerjee is a convert and his wife the daughter of another convert. The gentleman has been to Europe into the bargain, where he went for professional education. Of course, they live much like Europeans, man and wife. Not but what they live *volens volens* much after their kind and previous habits. But in several respects, the Native Christian community of Bengal have departed from their Hindu and Mahomedan brethren, and in none more so than in their domestic arrangements and the social intercourse of the sexes. This is a cardinal difference. It constitutes a structural variation of one society from another. These customs colour the whole existence of man. Such changes ought not to be lightly made. It is not at all necessary because a man turns Christian, that he should abandon the customs regulating home and mutual intercourse in which he was born and bred, any more than he need dress and eat like his Christian instructors of other lands. There are numerous Christian communities in different conditions which retain their old customs. Even in Europe, different notions and arrangements prevail. The freedom of British manners shocks most peoples on the Continent. We do not blame the Native Christians or Brahmos of Bengal for aspiring after the British model, for we have no doubt that that is the final goal of human progress. But there is risk in rushing on finality. We are afraid many enthusiasts do not calculate the danger of anticipating the years: others are simply frivolous, making of reform a fine dissipation. We think we are justified in taking the Berhampore case as a fair illustration of the evils of being unco-English before time. It is a delicate subject, and we, without pursuing it further, make a present of it to our contemporaries, European and Native, and our own countrymen at large in particular.

SIGNOR CRISPI.

A FRENCH PORTRAIT.

SIGNOR Crispi was born in Sicily, of Sicilian parents. A humourist of antiquity said:—*Omnes insulares mali, Siculi autem pessimi*. Without taking to the very letter this sally of wit, we can say of the Sicilians that they are energetic, passionate and specially vindictive. Signor Crispi is a Sicilian from head to foot.

He is about seventy years old, yet he has all the ardour and the impetuosity of youth. He is old, but he has not yet given up his youthful follies.

His stature is middling,—rather meagre,—and we know that he is still vigorous. His hair is become white; this is the only sign of decrepitude; the eye is bright, the look appears ardent.

At first sight, he is peevish, and abrupt; gradually his physiognomy softens, and if his conversation takes a friendly turn, he appears almost a good fellow.

He has a character; he wishes specially to have one. He possesses energy; that energy—which is the natural and requisite part—is the principal reason of his influence over Parliament. That body fear him. In an assembly, where talent is rare, and capacity still more so, a man who knows what he wishes and who wishes strongly, and never falters, is the person who easily gets the mastery over it. With that and with little or no scruples, he has proved it on several occasions in his political as well as in his private life.

As an orator, his eloquence is disagreeable—even painful to hear. The sentence is laboured, the diction abrupt, yet it is effective. In a country of high-sounding periods, where the Ciceronian method is cultivated, and where the art of speaking has arrived at perfection, Signor Crispi presents a contrast. His discourses are not long, but they are incisive. If he does not persuade, he inspires fear. He domineers over Parliament, specially since he is minister or rather dictator.

As a minister, he is a *policier* of the first order;—having passed his life in hatching conspiracies, he knows best what is needful to baffle them; and as he is by nature resolute, he never hesitates. Such is the man. Whatever we may think of him, he is surely not an ordinary man.

In 1848, he was deputy from Palermo to the Revolutionary Parliament. When the reaction came, he took refuge in England and afterwards in France. They say that while in France he experienced some vexations, and that it was then that he took against us the oath of Hannibal,—an oath which he has kept and still keeps.

Here is perhaps the true explanation of a policy often so inexplicable.

In 1859, Signor Crispi, not formally expelled, was invited by Signor Piétri to come from France. Accordingly, he came to Turin, affiliated himself with all the secret societies, and opened a correspondence with Cavour, who had the custody of his sons.

It was after the peace of Villafranca and while the annexation of Nice was under discussion, that the Sicilian enterprise was contrived. Signor Crispi returned to the island to prepare everything in agreement with Cavour, who supplied him with money. He was accompanied by his wife, whom he has since repudiated, and who was on that account decorated with the medal of Mille de Marsala.

During that long campaign or rather conspiracy which lasted several months, Crispi risked his life. If he had been taken, he would have been hanged, and Napoleon III, who was in the secret, would have allowed him to be taken, not perhaps without secret satisfaction.

This is not the place to recount how Garibaldi came to take the military direction of the enterprise, and how he triumphed without rendering to himself an account of the proceedings to which he owed his success.

What is certain is that he reaped all the glory of the undertaking. Signor Crispi remained in obscurity, whence Cavour, who feared him, brought him out as soon as he could. He entered Parliament and took his place in the Left and always supported Rattazzi, whose rôle consisted in directing the opposition for his advantage and in the interests of the king.

For ten years, Signor Crispi was the soul of all undertakings, a little dark and often unfortunate, which have prepared the Italian unity with Rome as capital.

Thus, in 1862, he was one of the principal organisers of the affair which ended at Aspromonte, and in 1867, of that which had its catastrophe at Mentana. Thus in Sicily, Garibaldi was the arm and Crispi the head.

Nevertheless, he was not chosen a minister. Rattazzi, though he wished it, could not bring him in his Cabinet in 1862 or in 1867. It was the Emperor who excluded him as they sometimes keep out some cardinals from a conclave. The official reason of the exclusion was that Crispi professed democratic ideas. The true reason remains and will ever remain a mystery. The injury, however, was not forgotten.

In 1866, when Napoleon III had the fatal idea of making Italy an ally of Prussia, Signor Crispi divined where would henceforth be the power. He made himself an agent of Bismarck and commenced those relations which have never completely ceased in spite of some moments of coldness. In August 1870, when Victor Emmanuel expressed his wish to come to the succour of France, Crispi was one of those who violently opposed him.

Towards the end of 1870, the ambition of this old conspirator was no longer barred by a superior will. He had to follow only the parliamentary way and to wait for the triumph of the Left to which he belonged.

That triumph came by a natural evolution in 1876. Signor Rattazzi having died, Signor Depretis, who was the chief of the Left, became Prime Minister. He made Crispi at first President of the Chamber and then minister of the Interior (Home Secretary).

In this latter capacity he had to preside once at a change of reign and at the conclave which elected Leo XIII. It is just to acknowledge that, in those circumstances of singular gravity, the conduct of the minister was resolute, correct and wise.

It is to be noted that hardly had he become President of the Chamber, when his first want was to go to Berlin. There he was not well received by the Emperor to whom he had addressed a despatch direct; hence arose some coldness, which, however, did not last long. The breach of etiquette was pardoned on his proving himself a submissive subject and a faithful ally.

We know how, after three months' ministry, Signor Crispi was compelled to retire in consequence of matrimonial adventures, on which it is not necessary to dwell, as they are the affairs of his private life; nevertheless, ten years were necessary to efface their traces.

Finally, on the death of Depretis, Signor Crispi was able to seize the power after which he ran in vain for 30 years. But he never despaired of his fortune.

He is President of the Council and Minister of the Interior and of Foreign Affairs. He rules the King as well as the Parliament. He is *de facto* dictator. One of the strange things of our times is to see this man govern despotically a Parliament, which, in the main, execrate him, and to domineer over a Court which certainly does not love him.

Here is the secret of this phenomenon. Signor Crispi knows to incarnate in himself the double passions of the House of Savoy and of the liberal Italian party, who have placed themselves under the ægis of that dynasty.

The first of these passions is to make Italy a power superior to France.

What does it matter whether England takes possession of the whole of the Mediterranean Sea? What does it signify if Germany re-establish the Empire of Charlemagne for her own advantage?

His chief object is to humble France,—and to trample upon her.

The second passion is to compel the Pope to submit to the House of Savoy and to become its subject.

They have taken from the Pope first his provinces, then his capital. They keep him morally a prisoner in the Vatican. As long as he protests, the Pope is not conquered; the more he is attacked, the stronger he becomes.

Signor Crispi hopes to put an end to this importunate protestation. This is the object of the campaign which he has undertaken and which he pursues with tenacity.

Such is the secret of his power and popularity. He has at his back the ambitious plans of the monarchy and the anti-religious passions of the sects.

How well soever he pursues his anti-French policy, Signor Crispi has for France an involuntary regard. He knows that he owes to her those ideas by which he rose to power, for he often says:—"In spite of all, the French are a great nation." The opinion of Paris pre-occupies him. Whatever he affects to say, he is irritated to be represented there as a

scarecrow. Thus, victorious Alexander pre-occupied himself with what was said of him at Athens.

This minister is not a man to be satisfied, like Signor Depretis, with governing peacefully for ten years and dying as a President of the Council.

He wishes to achieve grand things; his long struggle for power has sharpened his ambition without satisfying it. At seventy, he has the ardour of youth with the experience of maturity. He is certainly not an ordinary man—it would be a mistake not to recognize him.

Will he be a Richelieu or an Alberoni? Will he obtain in history the renown of a great man or of an Erostratus?

God knows it, and we shall probably know before the end of 1889.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE BENGAL MUSSULMANS.

SIR,—Your able and powerful leader, in your issue of the 22nd instant, on "the Mussulmans of Bengal," has met with universal encomium from the members of our community, and we cannot be sufficiently thankful to you for the great service which you have rendered us in this way. It was indeed a most delicate and difficult task, especially for a Hindoo editor of Bengal, but throughout you have acquitted yourself most honorably, independently and fearlessly. Your old acquaintance with the Mahomedan community, your perfect knowledge of their history and character, your great powers of observation and your experience of the Mahomedan Courts, have certainly excited your sincere sympathy for us, and you have therefore so feelingly expressed your own feelings and views on the subject. I believe the feelings of all respectable Bengalee gentlemen are more or less the same towards their Mahomedan brethren. You have done right by publishing the letter of *Sharafut*, and your leader and his letter combined have much soothed the injured feelings of my co-religionists and appeased their indignation, which if left unchecked might have run to other outlets and channels and caused serious mischief. Our traducer has already made a fool of himself and betrayed a want of historical knowledge, general information and common sense, of which every respectable and high-minded journalist ought to be ashamed. He, I believe, has never come out of his den, and he boasts of his so-called high origin sitting there. It is very dangerous to write in the press on sentimental impulses, without knowing what a man writes and without considering its consequences. This *jungli* editor has never been in respectable Mahomedan society; he has no idea of a respectable and high-born Mussulman of Bengal. His own associates having been all the unmentionable men, he looks everything from his lone *Chamuri* point of view. If he had seen the great centres of Mahomedans of Bengal, Dacca, Moorshedabad and other places and mixed with Mussulman gentlemen and nobles there, he would have surely seen the pure blood of Arabs, Mughuls and Tartars running through their veins with the same force as the tide of the Ganges runs at present. There are Mahomedan families in Bengal who defy recognition even by the *Patrika* as natives of Bengal, and who easily pass for Persians, Arabs and frontier men before keen observers. The English Government has given us the freedom of speech, but if it should be abused in the manner as is being done at present, by a class of unthoughtful, silly and inexperienced writers in the Bengali press, it must be withdrawn, else its political consequences may some day or other bring a great disaster upon Bengal, and present an opportunity to the *jungli* editor to test his high origin and valour by practical means with us and prove to the Government that he has all the qualities to make a good volunteer. Such writings are indirect applications for a Gagging Act which was once passed. The Mahomedans of Bengal are not yet so weak and timid as to be abused publicly without any reason whatever and without the least provocation. We are a polite race and we respect all our neighbours who are respectable, and in return we expect to be respected by them. If the editor of the *Patrika* is a reasonable person, he ought to apologise to my community for insulting them, and let the other writers of the same class take a lesson from this incident to use the dangerous weapon of the pen more carefully in future. It is simply foolish to think that, by using such dishonorable and mischievous means, the Congress-wallahs will force us to join that agitation. If you want our co-operation, you ought to appeal to our wisdom and understanding, but you have no right whatever to abuse us in the press.

I will here cite two instances in support of *Sharafut's* long list of the high class Hindoos having been converted to Islam. There are in the district of Mozufferpore the families of the late Karban Ali Khan (in town) and the Raja of Parsonni (sub-division Sitamarhee) whose forefathers were high caste Hindoos (such as Rajputs and Babbans). Their kinsmen and Hindoo relatives are still in that district, and I know of certain social ceremonies which are still being observed between the convert family of Karban Ali Khan and their Hindoo kinsmen. These two families are most respectable Mahomedan families, and the Head of the Raja family received the

title of Khan Bahadoor from Government. The Hindoo kinsmen of these two families are such high caste and rigid Hindoos that they would not drink water touched by the editor of the *Patrika* or his class of high born Hindoos. I can give other instances from Behar but what we have cited is enough to convince every just and reasonable person of the falsity of *Patrika's* allegations.

NAJAHAT.

BARRACKPORE SUB-DIVISION.

A short time ago, a memorial praying for the separation of the Barrackpore Sub-division from the jurisdiction of the Cantonment Magistrate, Barrackpore, signed by a few only of the residents, under the leadership, it is presumed, of Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee, the editor of the *Bengalee*, was submitted to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, for reasons best known to him. Baboo Banerjee is not on good terms with the present Sub-divisional Magistrate, Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hopkinson, as is fully evidenced by his too frequent attacks in his journal on that officer. Thus the memorial has its origin in *malice*. That Baboo Surendranath Banerjee is not popular with the people amongst whom he lives, is fully borne out by the fact that he twice failed to get himself returned as Chairman of the North Barrackpore Municipality—the Commissioners thereof having had bitter experience for a period of 3 years of his administration while at the head of the Municipality. Further, that most of the residents were ignorant of the submission of such a memorial, is quite evident from the fact of its being followed by two numerous signed counter-memorials, one by most of the respectable residents of the South Barrackpore Municipality and its neighbouring tracts, and the other by those of the North Barrackpore Municipality and its adjoining villages, strongly protesting against the proposed change as soon as they became aware of the fact of the submission of the memorial in question. Hence you and your readers can easily infer that the memorial was got up at the mere dictate of Mr. Surendranath Banerjee and his clique, and that the general public has no sympathy whatever with it. I can also make bold to assert that the opinion held by Mr. Surendranath of the administration of the subdivision by Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hopkinson is shared only by his blind admirers, and not by most of the residents of the subdivision. Baboo Surendranath has, of late, given up discussing in his journal on the general bearing of the question and is gradually descending to personalities—urging simply for the transfer of Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hopkinson “in the interest of the subdivision,” thereby leaving beyond doubt the fact that the memorial in question is an outcome of unadulterated personal grudge. If I remember aright, the memorialists urged in their memorial to the Local Government that as the tenure of office of the Cantonment Magistrate is limited to 5 years, they apprehend that the officers will be withdrawn when they are up in their work. The natural inference that can be drawn therefrom, is that in the opinion of the memorialists the longer a Cantonment Magistrate is retained in charge of a subdivision, the better it is for the administration of such subdivision. The further retention of Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hopkinson in charge of the subdivision, is thus indirectly hinted at by the memorialists as necessary in the interests of the subdivision.

The evil example of the *Bengalee* has, it pains me to notice, been followed by the other journals, such as the *National Guardian*, the *Indian Mirror*, and the *Hindoo Patriot*, which, instead of discussing the merits of the memorial point by point, are fully indulging in pure personal invectives. That these journalists have been biased against the present subdivisional officer by some evil genius, is quite apparent from the very tone of their writing.

26th September 1888.

VOX POPULI.

State Paper.

No. 16, dated Calcutta the 5th January, 1888.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Prideaux, Agent to the Governor-General in Council for the Affairs of the late King of Oudh.
To—W. J. Cunningham Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

SIR,—In compliance with the orders conveyed in paragraph 6 of your letter No. 47821, dated the 7th November 1887, I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of the Governor-General in Council, the following proposals in regard to pensions for the sons, daughters and *nikah* wives of his late Majesty the King of Oudh.

2. The circumstances of the family of the late King of Oudh are, to a certain extent, analogous to those of the family of Tippoo Sultan of Mysore, which more than eighty years ago was placed under the Superintendence of this Office. Both families, in consequence of events in the conduct of which they had no share, and whose issue was beyond their own control, forfeited the brilliant advantages to which at one time they seemed to have a birthright, and were reduced to a position of dependence on the Government

of India. It was in their relations with that Government that the chief point of difference between the Houses of Mysore and Oudh is observable. While Tippoo and his father, Hyder Ali, were bitter and implacable enemies of the British Crown, and were the cause of an immense expenditure of blood and treasure, the successive Rulers of Oudh vied with each other in loyalty to the Paramount Power, and, at more than one critical period in the history of British rule in India, furnished assistance in money and appliances of war which were of material importance to the success of the British arms. The traditional loyalty of the family was not lost in its last representative, for whatever faults the late King may have had, my long acquaintance with him enables me to attest to the fact that, beyond a natural feeling of discontent at his reverse of fortune, his mind from first to last was free from the slightest wish to countenance, far less to instigate, any action which might tend to the subversion of British authority in India. His conduct in regard to his rebellious wife and son met with the approval of the Government of India, and the tenor of his life was in accordance with the views he held upon that question.

3. I have thought it right to make these preliminary remarks, because it seems to me that in proposing the grant of pensions to the wives and descendants of the late King of Oudh, the procedure followed in the case of the Mysore family might serve as a useful guide, and while noting the points of similarity which existed in the position of the two families, I have adverted to one important fact which does not weigh to the disadvantage of the family of Oudh. So far as I am aware, the only principle which the Government of India has hitherto laid down with respect to the grant of pensions to this family, is the assurance conveyed to the late King in Lord Canning's Kharita to his address that, in the event of his demise, his family would be liberally provided for, though of course on a lower scale than that which was considered suitable in the case of the King himself.

4. The general principles on which pensionary allowances were made to the Mysore family are contained in a minute by Lord Minto, dated 19th October 1807, and as they seem to me to be equally applicable to the case of the Oudh family, I venture to quote an extract from that document for facility of reference:—

“My first proposition then is, that, subject to modifications and exceptions which I shall notice hereafter, a fixed allowance be settled on each of the Princes, which is to defray all their expenses of every description under their own management, and in any residence approved by Government which they may choose to provide for themselves in Calcutta, or its immediate vicinity.

“That they should be made clearly to understand that the allowance is never to be increased; but is to continue the same, notwithstanding any addition to the number of their families, or any unforeseen changes that may fall upon them.

“That the allowance is to be considered as their estate, for the deficiencies of which Government will not provide any more than it does in the case of other individuals, and which will not be diminished, except in case of misconduct or abuse.

“It must be expressed also very explicitly that the settlement is made only for the lives of the present Princes respectively, and that on their decease Government reserves to itself the right of considering anew the nature and amount of the provision to be made for their descendants and families.”

5. These principles, shortly summed up, amount to this:—That life pensions, which shall not be susceptible of increase or decrease, except in case of misconduct or abuse, should be conferred upon the Princes, on the understanding that they shall defray all their expenses of every description whatever. The stipulation with regard to residence is one which it may perhaps be proper to maintain, with such modifications in respect to locality as Government may, on consideration of the question, determine to be necessary. The application of these principles will also require that the separate stipends which have hitherto been drawn by children whose parents are still alive shall hereafter be included in the pensions allotted to the parents.

6. There is, however, an important point on which it is necessary to touch, before I proceed to make specific recommendations in regard to the several members of the family. In 1860 the Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Oudh forwarded to the Government of India, (To Secretary to Government of India, Foreign Department, No. 1468 dated 7th April 1860, with enclosures) twenty-nine cases of Jagirs claimed by members of the

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royal family of Oudh with full particulars regarding them. A large number of these Jagirs were claimed by persons who were not immediately supported by the King from the stipend granted to him by Government, but with regard to those members of his family who were in that position and who therefore fall within the scope of this report, the Government of India (To Chief Commissioner of Oudh No. 173, dated 12th January 1861) held the principle "that although the King has been told that he must provide for the immediate members of his family out of his pension, still if there be property to which they are fairly entitled they must be allowed to enjoy it." In accordance with this principle, the Chief Commissioner of Oudh was authorised to continue eight of the Jagirs which were granted to the King's Begams, or other sons, or their mothers so long as there were lineal heirs, children of the King. Sanction was also given in identical terms to the continuance of sixteen other Jagirs which had been granted to the King's Begams

and daughters who remained in Lucknow, but some of whom afterwards came to Calcutta.

7. The principle on which the Government of India acted on this occasion was taken exception to by the Secretary of State in Council, who, in his despatch No. 69 Pol. of the 23rd August 1862 para 7, observed that "to continue a Jagir to, or, in other words, to settle the most highly-esteemed form of pension upon a person, whose provision it was the intention of the British Government to include in the liberal allowance granted to the ex-King, is twice to provide for that person," and orders were consequently given that the resolution of the Government of India should be reconsidered. As the further correspondence on this subject is not recorded in this office, I am unable to trace the steps from which it resulted that the Jagirs remained in the possession of the grantees, while no corresponding reduction was made from the stipend of the King.

[To be continued.]

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1. The Chairman to lay upon the table the
Report of the Administration of the Municipa-
lity for the year 1887-88.

2. To confirm the proceedings of the Town
Council at meetings held on the 1st and 15th
September 1888.

3. To confirm the proceedings of the Water
Supply Extension Committee at a meeting held
on the 13th September 1888.

4. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee
and Sanitary Committee at a meeting held on
the 11th September 1888.

5. The Chairman to lay upon the table
Vital Statistics for the month of August.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

26th September 1888.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some
 years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder
 Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*
 (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high
 repute among the kindly, as well as acute and
 intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real
 misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord
 Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The
 picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and
 many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as
 an Englishman may find them if he looks
 fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad
 story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder ;
 and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen
 could give individual instances of Bengalee
 faithfulness almost unique in history, taking
 all the circumstances of our relation to India
 into account. The Bengalee is generally eager
 for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both
 courageous in the expression of his opinions,
 and gifted to a remarkable degree with the
 power to express those opinions with force and
 precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an
 unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during
 an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in
 force as well as eloquence, any unprepared
 speech he ever had heard made by any mem-
 ber of the House of Commons, if four or five
 members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body
 of men—small for that large province—who
 are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young
 Bengal." Some of them are no longer young,
 but grave and aged ; some have, in the course
 of years, been highly distinguished for their
 public services and their scientific and other
 attainments. Some have at times been mis-
 represented, and their language misinterpreted,
 so that on its return to them it has amazed
 none more than themselves. Nothing of this
 has been done by the really great administra-
 tors of India. That it has been done, however,
 cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the
 author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu
 Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute,
 as I have said, also an administrator, as the
 reader will see from the title-page to this book.
 A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might
 seek for and not find. His use of the English
 language has astonished many an educated
 Englishman ; and the quality of his reading is
 shown by his marvellous power of quotation ;
 not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and
 Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in
 science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads,
 and little-known old pamphlets, in the applica-
 tion of which he leaves one wondering first,
 how he obtained the productions at all, and
 secondly, how, having obtained them, he
 learned to apply them so appositely to the
 subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we
 shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the
 work of the administrator. He comes upon a
 milkman's village, on which he finds fastened
 the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens
 the grip, and re-settles the village, in the
 double interest of Prince and Peasant. And
 all the time he sees everything. The poor
 people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his
 genial and kindly, if also at times, what a
 Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice.
 A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his at-
 tention by the gracefulness with which she
 carries a vessel of water from the river ; and,
 though the fair maid and he are divided by
 race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his
 full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admit-
 ted—and he will not be offended with me for
 saying so—that he never meets with a fair face,
 without at least giving evidence of the fact
 that he has eyes to see and a heart to com-
 prehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much
 might be said, and still leave much more to
 say. He meets a missionary on the river, and
 evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to
 pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, how-
 ever, in the bud, and contents himself with
 saying, "So now is preaching here, that the
 simple people said the padre had been singing
 in the street." He meets Catholic and Pro-
 testant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles
 over their disputes, while he astonishes them
 by his command of the English language, and
 even by his knowledge of the Bible—a know-
 ledge, I may add, which is evident in many of
 his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in
 its cage, to his great distress, which is not
 however paraded. He says : [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but
 of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose
 name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to
 bark, with a noble independence, at some very
 dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind ; and here is his farewell :
 [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one
 that will draw the author very close to the
 great heart of humanity, wherever the words
 are read. Could anything be finer than the
 testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen,"
 ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor
 Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah
 dog. The passage is worthy of the author,
 and of the great mercifulness of the land that
 bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared
 further to find bold and manly language. The
 author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he
 gives John his due, and admits that India owes
 him a great debt. Here is one passage relating
 to foreign fruits : [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pic-
 tures—the reader will find some exceedingly
 pretty, and all the more valuable in that they
 are taken from a standpoint purely Indian ;
 not English. Where an English artist's mind
 would be filled with European ideas, the mind
 of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class
 of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive
 and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our
 author was placed in a dilemma of a kind
 not unknown to travellers in India, but not on
 that account the less stupid. He wished to
 go by a particular boat, and took time by the
 forelock for that purpose. The fare was at
 first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he
 offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note
 for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from
 the Currency Office, and had been received
 only the day before from another Government
 department." The rest of the story is
 thus told : [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth
 something. I can fancy the author laughing
 even in his dismay ; for he can laugh well at
 others, and equally well at himself. I shall
 only venture on one more passage ; and I give
 it as showing the spirit of the man who dares
 to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*.
 He desired to return to his home in Bengal,
 and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Inde-
 pendent Tipperah, where he had been located
 "some two years." He received the Maha-
 rajah's permission to return home ; but still he
 could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this pas-
 sage ; the lesson of the immense value of
 courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers
 and ruled. There is a great deal in that sen-
 tence, "If we serve flesh and blood." The best
 administrator in India is not always the ablest,
 the man whose plans are the wisest as plans ;
 but the man who, with plans or without them,
 gives confidence to the people, and confidence
 not merely in his justice, but also in his con-
 siderateness and forbearance. A clever man
 once said that the art of success in India is the
 art of giving good dinners. It may be so ; but
 the peril is great—the peril of debt ; and in
 any case the art has its limits, and its natural
 collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall
 in the end. But there is one art that never
 fails—the art of true courtesy ; of that courtesy
 which, being natural, is not affected by any
 whim or caprice, either of the person who
 possesses it, or of any one with whom he has
 relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once
 more recall, as I easily and very vividly can,
 the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as
 known to me many years ago. I see him, as
 I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra
 Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-
 abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* ;
 and I feel and say, with all earnestness and
 sincerity, that among these are men whom
 the Government of India would be wise in
 recognising and winning entirely to its side.
 They are men on whom no really generous
 word—true as well as generous—ever is
 thrown away. I have compared them at times
 with men of kindred occupations at home,
 and I think that they are as a rule by far
 the truer gentlemen in good manners, and
 often in very much more than mere manners.
 May the great God, whose sacred Name they
 use as that of the Father of all, guide them to
 a nobler destiny than any they yet have
 known, and with them, and by them, bless
 their native land !

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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We have read Srimati Girindra Mohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1888.

No. 346

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE AUTUMN LEAF.

LONE trembling one !

Last of a summer's race, withered and sear,
And shivering—wherefore art thou lingering here ?
Thy work is done !

Thou hast seen all
The summer's flowers reposing in their tomb ;
And the green leaves that knew thee in their bloom,
Wither and fall !

Why dost thou cling
Fondly to the wither'd maple tree ?
Has then existence aught like charm for thee,
Thou faded thing ?

The voice of spring,
Which woke thee into being, ne'er again
Will greet thee, nor the gentle summer rain
New verdure bring.

The zephyr's breath
No more will wake thee for its melody ;
But the lone sighing of the blast shall be
The hymn of death.

Yet a few days,
A few faint struggles with the autumn storm,
And the strained eye, to catch thy trembling form,
In vain may gaze.

Pale autumn leaf !
Thou art an emblem of man's mortality :
The broken heart, once young and fresh like thee,
Withered by grief :

Whose hopes are fled,
Whose loved ones all have dropped and die'd away,
Still clings to life—and lingering, loves to stay
About the dead !

But list !—e'en now
I hear the gathering of the autumn blast :
It comes—thy frail form trembles—it's past !
And thou art low !

THE PRAIRIE ON FIRE !

BY GEORGE P. MORRIS.

The shades of evening closed around
The boundless prairies of the west,
As, grouped in sadness on the ground,
A band of pilgrims leaned to rest.
Upon the tangled weeds were laid
The mother and her youngest born,
Who slept, while others watch'd and pray'd,
And thus the weary night went on.

Thick darkness shrouded earth and sky,
When on the whispering winds there came
The Teton's wild and thrilling cry,
And heaven was pierced with shafts of flame !
The sun seem'd rising through the haze,
But with an aspect dread and dire !
The very air appear'd a blaze !—
Oh God ! the prairie was on fire !

Around the centre of the plain
A belt of flame retreat denied,
And like a furnace glow'd the train
That wall'd them in on every side !
And onward roll'd the torrent wild !
Wreaths of dense smoke obscured the sky !
The mother knelt and pressed her child,
And all—save one !—shrieked out " we die !"

" Not so !" he cried—" help—clear the sedge—
Strip bare a circle to the land !"
That done, he hastened to its edge,
And grasped a rifle in his hand :
Dried weeds he held beside the pan,
Which kindled, at a flash, the mass !
" Now fire fight fire !" he said, as ran
The forked flames among the grass !

On three sides now the torrent flew,
But on the fourth no more it raved ;
Then large and broad the circle grew,
And thus the pilgrim band were saved.
The flames receded far and wide—
The mother had not pray'd in vain—
God had the Teton's arts defied !
His scythe of fire had swept the plain !

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Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

DURING the late vacation, the following official *communiqué* was left at our office :—

"Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India has been pleased to confer upon His Excellency the Viceroy the honor of a Marquisate and an Earldom with the title of Marquis of Dufferin and Ava and Earl of Ava in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, which latter titles His Excellency has assumed by Her Majesty's express command."

This is very high honour, but it has been earned. May Lord Dufferin be spared long to enjoy it !

THE *Civil and Military Gazette*, which may well boast after the eminent firm of tailors in London we keeps a Poet, seeing that it monopolises between it and the *Pioneer* the lucubrations of Mr. Kipling, has unaccountably given itself up to the dissipation of punning. The unfortunate men who are doomed to remain for ever on the *qui vive*, on every occasion and no occasion, for a verbal conceit, were at work torturing their brains to make capital of the grand shower of titles which has fallen on the Viceroy. Their produce is welcome to the Lahore paper.

Most of the wags seem to hail from the land of Cockayne. Thus—

"'Not Ava had title!' they say. . . 'Wondered what he'd get Avaterwards!'"

Again :—

"'More titles ! Ava !—avast ! an Avalanche of honours ! Don't stop at six, but Av' another.'"

Here is another effort at waggyery :—

"'A title. . . thanks ! the Burmese Ava—tar !'"

"Tell it to the marines !" will probably be the Viceroy's exclamation. What a pity for the full success of this gentleman that Lord Dufferin is a landsman, though in early life he voyaged to the Arctic seas !

..

THE Cabool mission has been abandoned. Here is the official announcement :—

Telegraphic news received from Peshawar states that the Amir finds it necessary to go to Turkestan to arrange for the government of the Province ; proposed mission to Kabul will therefore not start.

..

A SECOND attempt on the life of the Czar has been averted. A Cossack with explosives was arrested at Kutais among the crowd awaiting the Emperor's arrival.

..

WE congratulate the Maharaja of Cooh Behar on his having got a career at last, ephemeral though it be. Colonel Nripendra Naryan Bhoop Novembers at Lucknow where his regiment now is. The Maharaja will be attached to the 17th Lancers for duty this month. If the Maharaja finds the superintendence of, say, stables in a British regiment a more pleasant and dignified occupation than governing a Principality, it is scarcely for us to complain. Each to his taste.

..

LORD LANSDOWNE comes out with the following party :—

"The Marchioness of Lansdowne ; the Ladies Evelyn and Beatrice Fitzmaurice ; Lady Maud Anson ; Captain Streatfeild, A.-D.-C. ; Lady Florence Streatfeild and one child ; Captain the Hon'ble C. Harbord and Lieutenant H. A. Pakenham, A.-D.-C.'s ; and Dr. and Mts. Fenn."

..

FAMINE seems inevitable in Ganjam. Great distress already prevails. A serious looting is reported from Aska, where at the Serugada Zemin-dari, property valued at Rs. 10,000 has been despoiled. They have formed a Safety Committee and have called upon the Collector for more police and for reopening the Rushikulya project and other relief works. As a counter demonstration, at Govindapuram—the seat of the looters—a number of disaffected persons and had characters of the district have banded together preaching that looting is lawful. A correspondent thus writes of the Famine Works of those parts in the *Pioneer*—

"The Rooshookulia project, intended to ward off famine, has been barely commenced, although planned now twenty years ago. The Chilka Canal, which would enable grain to be brought to and from the coast, is no nearer to the coast than twenty years ago. The pier which it was hoped would enable rice to be landed in spite of the surf—which in 1866 kept cargoes of rice in the roads for days from want of means of crossing it—is found to be inside the surf and is useless even in ordinary weather, when the boats can ply with no difficulty. Should rain not fall and the stocks fail, grain must be speedily imported as a

reserve for the poor, otherwise Government must be prepared to hear of a heavy mortality ; even with rain now distress must be severe."

The *Pioneer* prefers a railway from the Central Provinces to Gopal-pore—a distance of 200 miles—to the costly Rooshookalia project.

..

THERE is famine in Kathiawar and Gujerat too. Thousands of persons have, it is said, during the past few days come over to Bombay from the distressed districts.

..

THE Viceroy descends from the Himalayan capital on the 13th instant and moves on to Lahore, where he halts on the 16th, and next day arrives at Patiala. After a halt of two days there for the festivities, he comes over to Aligarh on the 20th and visiting Sir Ahmed's College, arrives at Etawah the same evening. The next day sees the Viceroy at Raghunathpore, on the 22nd the Viceregal party leave on board Rhotas and sail for Dacca. They are timed for Naraingunge on the 26th. The next place programmed is Dacca which the Viceroy reaches by train the same day. After a stay of one day at the old capital, the party leave on the 28th, arrive at Goalundo on the 29th at 8 A.M., and returns to the metropolis at 4-30 P.M.

..

NAWAB MEHDI ALI has returned to India. Mehdi Hassan still continues in England to make up the difference between the Hyderabad Government and Messrs. Watson, in connection with the Deccan Mining scandals.

..

NEXT January, there will be an examination for filling up vacancies in the clerical establishments of the Secretariat offices of the Government of India and attached offices, at Calcutta, Allahabad and Lahore. Only 10 vacancies are expected in the Lower Division, 5 of which will be reserved for Calcutta candidates, the remaining 5 being divided between the other two capitals. There will be no examination for the Upper Division. Applications with Rs. 10 fee and other prescribed enclosures must be made early in December.

..

THE *Eastern Herald* delivers the following message :—

"The Conservatives, Liberals and Radicals, all alike love truth and worship justice, there is not a shadow of doubt that they would put their shoulders to the wheel for the sake of their fellow brethren, the subjects of Her Majesty the Queen."

..

THE Home remittances from the 1st April to 27th October 1888 amounted to £7,252,100.

..

THE choice of a third Native Judge for the Calcutta High Court has fallen on the Hon'ble Dr. Gooroo Das Banerjee.

..

MR. K. J. BADSHAH, Postmaster-General, N. W. P. and Oudh, has obtained 3 months' leave, Mr. A. G. Faichnie, Deputy Postmaster-General, 2nd Grade, acting for Mr. Badshah during the period.

..

THE Officiating Chief Magistrate Mr. Handley has fined one Goshto Behary Chuckerbutty Rs. 25 for contempt of Court for failing to deposit Rs. 40, two months' maintenance allowance for his wife ordered. The fine imposed was ordered to be paid to the wife as compensation. The pleader for the defence contended that the law allowed no compensation in such cases, but Mr. Handley thought that "as long as there was contempt, the law empowered him to impose a fine."

..

THE *Army and Navy Gazette* writes :—

"We hear from Burmah that the disease *surra*, always worst during the rains, has been again playing havoc among the cavalry horses in that country. E Troop, 1st Madras Lancers, has lately marched in dismounted to Meiktila from its former post, Shamayne, leading one horse, the sole surviving animal of 2 officers' chargers, 61 troop-horses, and 32 grass-cutters' ponies, which were present with the troop on May 12 last, the date on which the disease broke out. F troop has also been very unlucky in this respect, having already lost 16 troop-horses and 3 ponies from the same disease, and having 13 cases of *surra* now lingering on. The disease is absolutely incurable, so these, too, must eventually swell the death-roll. In other words, in one squadron, out of 110 horses, 89 have died within the last three months. Since the arrival of the 1st Madras Lancers in Burmah, just two years ago, the regiment has lost in all 371 horses. Considering that the average price of the Government remounts of the Madras Cavalry is 750 rs. for Walers (in Madras), and nearly that amount for Arabs and Persians, it will be seen how great the loss is."

Our London contemporary attributes the extent of mortality to the penny wise and pound folly of the Government of India in starving the veterinary department.

HERE is a recipe for rendering brick-walls damp-proof. Having got the wall clean and dry, treat it with a strong solution of soap and water as hot as possible, followed by a bath of 4oz. of alum dissolved in a pint of water, at the temperature of 70° Fahr. Repeat the process several times at intervals of twenty-four hours.

WHEN Europeans expatiate on the follies of Oriental Princes, they forget that there is really vastly little to choose between the East and the West. At any rate, the following does not present our future sovereign in the most amiable light :—

"It is unlikely that Colonel Maude will succeed Lord Alfred Paget as Clerk Marshall. Colonel Maude has at present a more lucrative and pleasant post. As Crown Equerry he enjoys a salary of £2,000 a-year, has a capital town residence at the back of the Royal stables; and a delightful house in Bushey Park. Moreover, he holds his position for life, and is the only Court official that cannot be dismissed at the pleasure of the Crown. The Prince of Wales, too, would certainly object to the Colonel obtaining the Clerk Marshalship, for he is not a favourite at Marlborough House. The reason of this is I believe that at one time the Prince of Wales was accustomed to send to the Royal stables for whatever extra carriages and horses he might require, until the Queen, hearing of this, gave orders that none of the Royal carriages or horses were to be used without permission from Buckingham Palace. Consequently, on the next occasion that the Prince's equerry came hurrying down for more carriages, Colonel Maude declined to send them, and the Prince was very angry about it, and has never quite forgiven the Colonel."

NEW Zealand is luckier than any other part of Greater Britain. She has got a domiciled peer to lighten her population. He is no prodigy, of course, but a lord for a' that. He is, besides, rich as a lord—a distinct advantage to the Colony. Here is the latest account :—

"The Earl of Seafeld, who recently succeeded to the family estates and title, after leading a chequered and erratic life in the Colonies, in which he is credited with having acted by turns as a stock-raiser, an auctioneer, a bailiff, and even a day labourer, intends to remain in New Zealand for good and all. His Lordship is expected home for a short time to take formal possession of his estates in Scotland, and to transact other business in connection with his succession to the family honours, but apparently the title has no great attractions for one so inured to Colonial life, for it is said he will take no steps to sign the roll of Scotch peers, or otherwise to actively assume it. The Earl is building a large mansion-house in North Otago for the future residence of his family."

A COMMITTEE, formed of Mr. R. G. Macdonald, Deputy Accountant-General, P. W. D., and two First grade Executive Engineers—Lieutenant-Colonel E. Harvey, R. E., Punjab, and Mr. R. A. Corder, N. W. P. and Oudh, have been appointed to shorten the Account work in the offices of Executive Engineers. They meet at once, for the report is wanted by the first March next. The enquiry will be limited to the Buildings, Roads and Irrigation Branches of the Public Works Department. Is the present Account work a clog on the free distribution of patronage? Or, is it comparatively more expensive than the expenditure it is intended to record?

MR. EARDLEY NORTON has addressed a powerful letter to the *Madras Mail*, in vindication of the selection of Mr. Bradlaugh as the Parliamentary mouthpiece of the National Indian Congress, and in explanation of the circumstances under which the choice was made.

THE loss of the *Ostrich* in the Hooghly in collision with the Port Commissioners' floating crane, is being enquired into in the Marine Court.

KAZI SYUD REZA KHAN BAHADOOR, of the Patna Division, has enhanced his educational endowment, of an estate of the annual value of Rs. 1,200 for Mahomedan youths in the Patna College and the Aligarh Oriental College, by the foundation of a scholarship of Rs. 4 a month, tenable for one year, by the best student of the Entrance class of the Patna Anglo-Arabic School. He has rightly deserved the thanks of Government "for his public spirit and liberality."

DURING October—23 days—35,541 male and 10,389 female Natives and 748 male and 257 female Europeans—in all 46,935 persons—visited the Indian Museum.

THE Patna Pleader Khodabux, aged 60, has taken to wife the ward, numbering only 13 summers, of Moulvi Kabirudeen Ahmed of Taltolla. The Pleader had brought down from Patna two bestmen with him,

namely, his two sons, aged 12 and 11 respectively. This union may bring Khodabux some money but will it raise him in society or to Council? Perhaps he knows better. Was the gracious Mr. O'Kinealy the *ghatak* of such an appropriate union?

THE Crawford Commission opened at Poona on the 23rd October. Mr. Latham, Advocate-General, and Mr. Jardine appeared for Government to prosecute. Mr. Inverarity defends Mr. Crawford. The charges are thirty-three in number. The first thirty-two deal with bribes received in 32 sums of various amounts, amounting in all to Rs. 47,000, including a sum of Rs. 10,000 paid out of the Chief of Bhore's treasury. The last takes him to task for contracting debts in his own division while Revenue Commissioner of the Central Division. Mr. Crawford pleaded not guilty to all the charges except the last to which he partially pleaded guilty. The sittings of the Commission continue from day to day.

A WRITER in *Temple Bar* contributes a smart paper brimful of knowledge on the prominent members of the British diplomatic Service. Here are some of the sketches of men who mould the foreign relations of Great Britain and who have the making of peace and war in their hands :—

BERLIN.—SIR EDWARD MALET.

It was said of Lord Ampthill—but this was an exaggeration—that he was the only diplomatist who could manage Prince Bismarck. No one would say as much of Sir Edward Malet; but neither would anybody assert that Prince Bismarck could manage Sir Edward. The secret of the latter's power lies in his impenetrability. A trim, thin-faced man of slight build, with dark hair and sparse beard turning grey, he might be taken in any public place for a solicitor or doctor in good practice. He has not the advantage of a commanding stature and figure; and there is nothing striking in his attire; but look at him closely, and his intellect becomes revealed in his clear, square-cut forehead and the depth of his large eyes. As regards the externals of his character, everybody proclaims him a *bon camarade*. When he walks out with one of his secretaries he talks with an incessant flow of animal spirits. He is frolicsome as a boy, and has a laugh ringing and cheerful as a spring breeze. But in business he is as unapproachable as an octopus. He might have a despatch announcing a declaration of war in his pocket and no body who questioned him about the chances of war would be any the wiser.

ST. PETERSBURG.—SIR ROBERT MORIER.

Sir Robert Morier's strength lies in knowledge. He stands upon his information as upon a hard pavement which he raps with a stick. With considerable vivacity of character, derived perhaps from a French ancestry, he darts rapidly to the knot of a question, guesses intuitively at the motives for human action; and brings the double acumen of an Oxford don and of a German savant to bear upon his analyses. The Germans found that he knew rather too much about themselves, and were piqued to see that he was never carried away by enthusiasm for German ideas. A professional dispassionateness, Liberal opinions of the old Whig type, and a sturdy English patriotism, render a man proof against the glamour which Teutonic successes and Bismarckian Caesarism have exercised over certain English minds. It is said that the Russians have pleased him better than the Germans; and this is not surprising. In the highest circles of Russian society, where culture prevails, there is much more open-mindedness than at Berlin. The Russian delights in polite disputations, and will discuss any new theory in politics or religion with the ardour of a man who feels that he belongs to a new country whose future is one of limitless possibilities.

CONSTANTINOPLE.—SIR WILLIAM WHITE.

He is a man of leonine aspect, tall, stalwart, with a massive forehead, a flowing white beard, and a voice like a roar: 'Ah, my dear Sirrr!' these words, ringing like an Irish accent, may be heard through the thickest doors of fifty paces off in a street, while Sir William with exuberant gesticulations is ramming some fact into a hard head, or some indignant remonstrance into a quivering soul. Sir William quotes forgotten protocols more readily than most men could cite the dates of their children's birthdays. His mind is an extraordinary store-house of well-classified facts, and he is continually adding to its contents. He is never for a moment idle. When at Belgrade and Bucharest he used to turn out at early morning, attend mass at the nearest Roman Catholic Church, and then mix with market-folk or other small people, to whom he would speak in their own language. His individuality is so strong that he might be called influence incarnate.

That last portrait reminds us of the late Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and of Mr. Kinglake's elaborate and striking character of the "Great Elchee." It is a great consolation to know that Great Britain continues to produce a succession of such men, and that her relations with Turkey are still in such firm and wise hands.

THE Oojein Correspondent of the *Eastern Herald* gives a satisfactory account of affairs in the dominions of the Maharaja Scindhia. With a purer administration of justice, with schools primary and secondary, opened in almost all important towns and villages, with Public Works of sanitation and convenience undertaken in every direction, the coun-

try has evidently entered a new era. This seems specially the case in Malwa under the government of Sir Michael Filose. And now under Sir Suba has arisen in the classic city which is his capital—the seat of the Provincial administration—a most important institution. Sir Michael and his officers and friends have established a Library. It is under the management of a committee embracing all the talent and position of the place, as follows—Sir Michael Filose, President; Chintaman Rao Vidya, Vice President; Members:

Bapu Sahib Dhakne, the Subba Sahib, the Deputy Inspector-General Vinayak Rao Bhawe, Mr. Nazarali, Mr. Rajaji Viyas, Nana Sahib Astekar Raghunathrao Potnis Esquire, V. G. Lele Esq., Isan-ul-huq Esq., Mr. Widnel, Mr. Sewaram, Munshi Jwala Sahai, Mr. Issbhai, Mr. Ramrao Dongre Daji Nalesh and Pandit Anandilalji.

Sukharam Bapu Esquire, Secretary. Balkrishna Rao Patkar, Asst. Secretary, Raymurji, Treasurer, Messrs. Bhawe and Khat, Accountants.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

WE received late last evening the following telegram from Dacca:—

A meeting of large number of officials and reises held here to-day (2nd Nov.) to concert measures to receive Lord Dufferin. The Divisional Commissioner presided, reception committee formed for making preparations. The Nawabs and the Raja of Bhawal contribute liberally.

WE are gratified to learn that the Government of India have selected Bapu Sahib Jadon, the Senior Member of the Council of Regency at Gwalior and guardian of His Highness the Minor Maharajah, to succeed the late Sir Gunput Rao Khurkey as President of that Council. Although official intimation of the same has not yet been received at Gwalior, the news has been hailed with satisfaction by the subjects of that big territory as well as all the wellwishers of that State. Another very gratifying piece of news has also been received that Her Highness the Dowager Maharanee Saheba has been selected, by His Excellency the Viceroy, to assume the important position of the Regent of the State, during the minority of her son, His Highness the Maharaja.

This lady, who is less than 30 years of age, is highly intelligent and was given a good education by her late husband. We are told that she has acquired a very fair knowledge of Hindee, Sanskrit, Urdu and Persian, and is fully competent to transact state business. It is earnestly hoped that the administration of this large State will be carried on most satisfactorily by the Maharanee Regent, with the assistance of her father, the President of Council, as well as of the other great officers of the State. The unselfish arrangement made by the Marquis of Dufferin's Government, for the administration of Gwalior, will, we are quite sure, be a source of the greatest felicitation among the entire body of the Native Princes, as most conclusively shewing that it is not the intention of the Government of India to place such States under the superintendence of British Officials, and secondly, as proving that the Government are anxious to consult the feelings of the nearest relations of the Princes.

THE principles for the administration of Indian jails, as regards economy, sanitation and discipline, were settled after three successive Commissions—of 1834, 1864 and 1877—appointed by Government, had reported on them. But the principles followed have not been uniform. The departure in certain instances has been so great that the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact. An analysis of the statistics of various jails and prisons shews a variation in the death rate ranging from 11 to 72 per mille of average strength, a variation in the cost of maintenance of prisoners per head ranging from Rs. 44-11-7 to Rs. 91-2-10 and a variation in the ratios per cent. of punishment for offences against jail discipline ranging from 33 to 328. From these wide disparities the Governor-General in Council rightly suspects grave defects in our jail and prison discipline and has deputed Dr. W. Walker, Officiating Surgeon-General and Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, and Surgeon Major A. S. Lethbridge, Inspector-General of Jails, Bengal, to inspect and report, among others, fully on

“(1) Jail discipline and the registration of punishments, with particular reference to the point whether the execution of sentences has grown less rigorous and deterrent than it was in former years;

(2) economy of management, including the system of purchasing

rations and the dieting of prisoners with reference to the ordinary food persons of their class usually consume;

(3) sanitation and water-supply; and

(4) the financial aspects of the employment of convicts in jail, jail labour and the allotment of task work.”

in the jails of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab. We think the object would have been better served by the appointment of a third person—an outsider altogether—a Jack of all trades and master of none but with some notion of affairs or at least of how the world goes. Your experts are usually too clever by half.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, has proposed the following rule in the Gazette, to ensure the correct counting of passengers carried by steamers plying between Chandbally and Calcutta:

“Passengers going by steamer to Chandbally must be provided with a ticket; but it is left to the owners of the steamers to decide whether the tickets will be issued on the steamer or on shore.

“The tickets issued on shore must bear serial numbers, and those on board are to be taken from a book with counterfoils. Before the steamer starts, the agent shall report to the Commander the number of tickets issued on shore, and on arrival the Commander shall send this report to the police officer, together with a statement showing the number of tickets issued by himself. He must show his ticket book to any police officer desiring to see it.”

The rule is not sufficiently comprehensive. There will be no knowing how many passengers were on board before the Commander made his report to the police officer. We think the rules should be so framed that Government might at once know before the starting of any vessel or before her arrival, the number of souls on her—passengers, paid or unpaid, and all hands on board. It is not enough to know that so many paying passengers were carried. What of the unpaid ones? What of the intermediate passengers, taken on the voyage? The Commander, we think, should be made to report before the vessel left or whenever new passengers were taken in in any intermediate station, and not to leave any passenger without information to the Police or a record of the fact. Facilities should also be provided for counting the persons when landed.

THE Hon'ble Syud Amir Hossein has committed Sudhabode Bhattacharjee on a charge of murder of his infant wife Kristomanini. More criminal evidence was offered at the Magistracy than was forthcoming at the Inquest. We must be prepared for any amount of perjury in the case. To begin with, Pundit Jibananda Bhattacharjee, the father-in-law of the girl, deposed before the Magistrate that the cook and the maid-servant of the house had left him and were *non est*. The Police, however, traced them to the Pundit's house.

THE Vacation Bench has acquitted Head Constable Dutta Doyal and Constable Abdul Karim in the Alipore Police Torture case. The Judges hold that the District Judge was seriously wrong in impeaching the Inspector's diary, that he was strongly impressed against the prisoners and to prejudicial extent—in his charge to the Jury, and moreover that the evidence can not justify any conviction.

The case was committed on insufficient evidence, and it is almost folly to expect enough evidence against the Police.

THE Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, has discountenanced the practice, hitherto obtaining in the Calcutta Collectorate, of granting excise passes beyond its jurisdiction—to Assam, for instance. We may now look for a change in the law.

THERE is a vacancy in the Cingalese seat in the Ceylon Legislature, by the death of the Honourable Mr. Alwis. There is great excitement in the Cingalese section of the native community on the question of filling it up. Meetings are being held to memorialise Government to press forward the claims of different aspirants, and the press is discussing their respective merits. The most prominent names are those of Messrs. Sinnevaratne, Obeyesekere and W. de Saram, who were sent for by the Governor Sir Arthur Gordon, for the purpose of testing their qualifications, doubtless. Notwithstanding such readiness, we remark that a correspondent of the insular Press characterises Sir Arthur as the most illiberal Governor that ever came to Ceylon. There is not much to choose, we fear, as regards the extreme section of the Press, between the Continent and the Island. It would be more satis-

factory if our Governors took a leaf out of their Ceylon brother's book. For one thing, it might discourage the mischievous habit of an irresponsible and uninstructed Press to recommend men at random to all sorts of offices, if our rulers, by themselves or through their Secretaries, made the acquaintance of persons so indicated.

The Bombay Legislature is the only Indian Chamber filled by representative men of all communities. And this because the present Governor makes it a point to mix with the flower of all classes and to select the best men without fear or favour. Such a practice is more valuable than the concession of the principle of election. No other ruler brings such conscience to bear upon the selection of Senators.

THERE was some intimidation by the Police in Ahmedabad on Congress meetings and on the friends of the Congress. It was even said that the Police had received a circular adverse to the Congress. What was still worse it was given out by the enemies of the movement that the head of the Presidential Administration himself was opposed to the institution which was hatched and started at his capital. Accordingly, a gentleman of Ahmedabad addressed Lord Reay a note of inquiry and His Excellency has given the reply that might be expected of a responsible statesman:—

"His Excellency expresses his astonishment that after 3½ years, his principles and views should be so little known as to render it possible for any one to give credence to injurious rumours such as we have referred to. In regard to the Police Circular, he says he has never seen it, that he has never dreamt of enquiring who did and who did not belong to the Congress, and that he will never tolerate any sort of intimidation of would-be Congressists, direct or indirect; that the Congress criticises the administration, and that the administration *must* welcome such criticism as tending to improvement and the eradication of abuses; that his one duty and desire is to improve and strengthen the administration; and that it is, therefore, impossible for him to look with disfavour on a movement which promises so materially to assist in this work. On the contrary, his position towards the Congress is that of stage critic; in other words, that while not feeling himself bound to accept all the Congress says, he feels bound to give his most careful consideration to all it puts forward, and draw thence very possible hint for the improvement of the performance which he directs. He then goes on to refer to the absurd rumour of his having declined to distribute the prizes to the Anjuman-i-Islam School, because Mr. Budruddin has been President of the last Congress, and points out that so far from having any prejudice against Mr. Budruddin or the Anjuman on account of their participation in the Congress movement they have his full sympathy, and he has only this week directed the acceleration of the arrangements for their school for which his Government has granted a noble site and Rs. 38,000. His Excellency adds that he should have thought that such absurd stories would not have needed contradiction and, truly, to wise men they never did need it."

Just so.

Notwithstanding all that, the Education Department was caught in the act of distributing among the schools, Raja Sivaprasad-Maharaja of Benares's speech against the Congress. Mr. K. M. Chatfield, Director of Public Instruction, was asked whether he had circulated any pamphlets for the Maharaja of Benares, and in order to clinch the point, pamphlets in favour of the Congress were forwarded with a request that they might be distributed by the Department. The Director was in a fix. At last, he wriggled himself out of it by saying in answer that the only communication that he had received from the Maharaja of Benares was a letter from his Private-Secretary requesting him to distribute 200 copies of the Maharaja's pamphlet. The only communication! To this he replied that he could not distribute political pamphlets to schoolboys. But before his answer reached its destination, the 200 political pamphlets against the Congress came by post, and the consistent Director of Public Instruction distributed them to all the schools, as if he had never raised the slightest objection to such a circulation. Now that he had been caught *flagrante delicti*, and the inexorable Congressists would not let him out of their grip, there was no help for him but to submit to their bullying. He offered to do likewise for the Congress as he had before done against it. He would distribute at the cost of the State 200 pamphlets in favor of the Congress as he had distributed 200 copies of the Benares Maharaja's speech denouncing the Congress. He could scarcely do less after having quietly helped the enemies of the movement. But does he make the offer with a good face and a light heart? Why not more than 200 copies? Surely, he would have as readily circulated 500 or 1,000 of the Maharaja's speech if so many had been sent him, as 200. He makes a desperate effort at preserving countenance by drily pointing out the advantage the Congressists had over their opponents, in that their publications were in English which would be better understood in the Western Presidency

than the Shivaprasad's Hindi. We hope Lord Reay will knock some proper notions into his Director's head. The Education Department is the last place for the Cynic.

THE Bombay correspondent of the *Evening News* writes—

"Certain Arabs have been doing a little swindling here of late, presenting forged letters to Nawabs and other high personages, professing to bear the seal of the Consulate. These frauds were perpetrated with a view to obtaining from the person deceived pecuniary assistance.—The Turkish Consul-General here has, I believe, reported the matter to the Government of India. He states that his private seal has been forged and affixed to a letter presented to the Nawab of Rampore. The forgery was detected, but Abdoola Bin Mahomed Maner, the culprit, very knowingly made himself scarce, and has ever since kept out of the way. The Consul also informed the Government that there are in India certain persons who pass themselves off as relatives of well-known Turkish Pashas; they dress in the uniform of the Sultan's body-guard, call themselves Rum-i-Sabihs. (rum fellows it means, I suppose!) visit Rajahs and Nawabs and obtain money from them."

There are some so-called Roomee physicians about in Calcutta and other parts of India. One of them was for some months in our neighbourhood in Wellington Square, but has now disappeared. He was in the pay of a Pasha of Constantinople from whom he used to receive regularly several thousand Rupees a month, but latterly he had dispensed with this aid from home and was supporting himself by his wits—we mean the practice of medicine. He was a great Saint, of course, all Indian Mussulmans, specially in the West and the Arabian Sea coast, being disciples of his family. He was a friend of the *Indian Mirror*, had travelled long in Europe and knew all tongues and volunteered to teach us the Vedas and the Hindu religion. He, of course, said the other Hakeem whom Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder has given a certificate is an imposter. If the one is six, the other is half a dozen, we fear. Mr. Lambert had better keep an eye on both.

A few yaers ago, another Roomee Saheb, who had attempted swindling in Jodhpore, bullied the Deputy Commissioner in his own room.

WITH the impartial Anglo-Indian Press, it is the unenviable peculiarity of the natives of India in all matters to lean on the Government—so different from the sturdy and honourable self-reliance of the British! But the British are not, after all, so punctilious as they are represented. They have no over-delicate stomach for jobs, and they have rather a weakness for appointments of all kinds even to sinecures. They are, of course, too superior a people to be abashed. No extravagance deters them. The most notable example is furnished by the new number of the *National Review*. In that serial, Mr. F. J. Crowest deploras the condition of the English opera and concludes with proposing a state aided Theatre. Is Crowest a Baboo in disguise? A Chatterjee could not have gone beyond him.

THE Tyrolese seem the most addicted to conjugality of all peoples. In the teeth of political economy, against all common prudence, notwithstanding positive law, they plunge into it, and go on breeding swarms of drones and no end of beggars. Prohibited from marrying, unless he can show that he has laid in a sum of money sufficient to support a family, he would beg, borrow, or steal, rather than go without a wife. Sometimes a dozen or more engaged youngmen, despairing of ever getting money enough to secure the permission, go on a pilgrimage to Rome, begging their way on foot, accompanied by their sweet-hearts. There, under the protection of another law, and with the blessing of the Church they perform the mystic sacrament and are united, for better for worse, for life and eternity; but, on return to their native village, they are fined by the Commune for breaking the law. We of the improvident conjugal East can sympathise with such an honest *penchant*. But, then, what of the demon of Cricisbeism? We hope it is the vice only of the great cities, and does not at any rate penetrate the picturesque mountains in the North.

ON the last day of the Durga Pooja, the sub-division of Narail, in the Jessore District, was clouded by the loss of its leading inhabitant. On that day Baboo Chunder Kumar Roy, the head of the Narail family, died. A pious Hindu of a fast vanishing type of orthodoxy, there was a peculiar fitness in the time and other attending circumstances of his death. At the seat of his family and the home of his birth, among his dear and near ones, surrounded by friends especially invited—as if from a presentiment of his fate—from Baranagar and Cossipore (the

Calcutta seat of the Narail Baboos) and elsewhere in Calcutta and the Suburbs, to share with him the worship and festivities of the Bengali Christmas, he took his leave. No more auspicious day could be imagined for the departure of the good Hindoo on the Great Journey. It was the Maha Navami—the Ninth of the Moon—on which the national worship of the embodied Principle of Energy culminates and determines, when the spirit of the goddess takes its flight from the clay tenement into which it had descended, in answer to invocation and by the efficacy of mystic rites. On that day, the soul of Chunder Kumar the Good left in the wake of the goddess.

The deceased was a most amiable and altogether estimable man. If he was without his father's force of character, he brimmed over with graces to which that father had no pretensions. If the genius of the great Ramratan Roy did not descend to any of his line, there was no trace of his sternness in his son. He was a thorough Bengali gentleman of the old type but with adaptiveness to modern needs.

To Baboo Chunder Kumar, his family seat of Narail was not a little indebted for all the progress which it has made. It was greatly due to his liberality and progressive sympathies, that the town grew up into a model of a Zemindari township and lordly residence. The Narail School had for years maintained its position as a first class higher class English School in the province, when it was converted into a College. At no inconsiderable expense, too, has the Narail family kept up, in the best appointed style, a Native and an English Dispensary. Dr. J. G. Anderson, now a medical practitioner in our neighbourhood, was for years in charge of the Narail Hospital, on a salary of Rupees five hundred a month. Under Baboo Chunder Kumar's influence, the Narail Zemindars have never stinted any expense in providing their educational and medical institutions with the best staff that could be secured. Their munificence to Sanskrit learning used to be princely. With all his public beneficence, the deceased gentleman was remarkably free from ambition. In these days of cheap titles, he firmly resisted the pressure of well-meaning officious friends who would have him cultivate official favour towards the recognition of his public services, and it is a significant commentary on the wisdom with which honors are distributed, that an extensive benefactor of the district of Jessore dies a plain Baboo Chunder Kumar Roy, while hundreds with far inferior claims have been raised to the official peerage. Will it be believed that one of his tenants—not one of his biggest either—was by a British Magistrate kicked into a Roy Bahadoor to spite his liege-lords? We offer our sincere condolence to Baboo Chunder Kumar's two surviving sons and the other members of the family.

A MUNICIPAL bye-election lately took place for filling up a vacant Commissionership for the Shibpur Ward of the Howrah Municipality. There were two opposing candidates in the field, and we hear that not less than Rs. 1,200 has been spent between them in canvassing. This may be an indication of the interest taken in municipal affairs, but *cui bono?* say we. What, after all, is the value of the position of a municipal Commissioner? Under the law, as it is, the ultimate control of the expenditure rests with the official authorities, and these, in their turn, are by no means indisposed to stretch their authority to the utmost limits allowed by the law. In some of the municipalities in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, the Commissioners have been deprived of the power of regulating their expenditure in even the pettiest details, and this, with every circumstance of insult and humiliation into the bargain. In the South Barrackpore Municipality, the budget prepared by the Commissioners and submitted for the sanction of the Divisional Commissioner, has been rejected *in toto*, and an altogether different scale of expenditure has been framed at the Commissioner's office, in the face of the most earnest remonstrances of the local authorities, and imposed on them for implicit submission. In other municipalities, the Commissioners are not at liberty to appoint an additional peon, or to give the slightest increment of pay to any of their servants. The Presidency Commissioner's raid is chiefly directed against municipal grants to English schools, but his interference extends to the pettiest details. The South-Barrackpore Municipal Commissioners talk of resigning *en bloc*, and if they should do so, it would no doubt be a pretty situation.

LORD DUFFERIN has again laid the Empire under obligation by an act of large liberality. He has added another native to the body of

Judges of the Bengal High Court. Three Native dignitaries of the highest bench in the country at one and the same time! Surely, the "Red" orators and silly writers who see nothing but wrong in Government, and see the impersonation of Governmental fatuity and frivolity and baseness in the Viceroy, ought in mere decency, if not honesty, to pause for the nonce!

The manner of the boon has enhanced the gift. The principle of the appointment is unexceptionable, but it might have been abused in the choice of the appointee. We can rejoice with unmixed satisfaction that it has not been so. It is true that the choice was limited to two, as we showed in a leading article of the 8th September. Indeed, practically Dr. Rashbehari Ghosh was not in the running. He is at once far too brilliant and far too independent for the Court of Chief Justice Petheram. But then in these days there was great danger of an incompetent Mahomedan being pitchforked into the Bench. The gods on earth and Heaven are to be thanked for preventing such a calamity.

The Mahomedans have especial reason to be grateful. The integrity of their law could not be promoted except by a profound Arabic doctor, and none such exists who has the other qualifications necessary to a High Court Judge, or even the initial qualification of a tolerable knowledge of the language of the Court; while their manners and institutions and even their faith might be easily compromised from the influence of a nominal Mussulman elevated to the judgment seat of the highest Court. No wonder there is visible a sense of relief as from an impending disaster. We need scarcely say that it would have given us real pleasure, instead of another Hindu, to have a Mahomedan.

WE are glad to notice that there exists at Mhow a Native Music Club, established in October 1886 by the exertions or under the patronage of Sirdar Gurdatt Singh, Rai Bahadur Pandit Bala Pershad, and last not least Khan Bahadur N. M. Khory, foremost in every good work. On Sunday the 30th September, the second anniversary was held at the Sirdar's house, under the presidency of Babu Radha Nath Banerjee, the President. Besides the gentlemen named, there were four Srimant Rao Sahebs, Chief Justice Baij Nath, Pandit Hurnarain, Mr. Somerje Parpia, Babu Gurudas Bose, several respectable Parsee residents and about fifty others. There were not only no Europeans but no Mussulmans either, apparently, except one Kasim Khan. The Chairman opened the proceedings with the reading of a short address. We are told "the Secretary Mr. Muncher Shah B. Raji then sang a song composed for the occasion the Master playing what Harmonium." The closing clause of that sentence is a riddle. That "what" is a formidable stumbling-block. It is unparsable. Supposing it to be an intruder introduced by the imps of Pandemonium, "the Master" still remains in all his mysterious glory. Who the—imp is he? The Secretary's song to the Master's harmonium "was followed by Babu Poorna Chunder Seal one of the leading members of the club playing at guitar when he finished Mr. Harry Bhow played different times on the same instrument." "Times" we suppose is a misprint for tunes, for the guitar is no drum to play the different combinations of tune upon, unless by guitar the Pathan Rabab is meant, which is a stringed instrument upon a drum giving the musician a double advantage, to some extent. Next "The renowned Pakhoaji or Drummer Nana Sahib Phanse and a Beenkar (player on a double end guitar) played at their favourite instruments to the great joy of the audience. Rai Bahadur Pandit Bala Pershad also amused the audience by playing a Flute Harmonium. Mr. Kasim Khan played wonderfully on the same instrument and charmed the audience."

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1888.

THE NATIONAL INDIAN CONGRESS.

A FEW PLAIN HINTS OF SOBER TRUTH TO THOSE WHO CARE FOR IT.

THE National Indian Congress is in danger—from the unwisdom of its leaders. An institution fraught with momentous effects on the future welfare of the people, it must be keenly regretted if the indiscretions

of its own friends should threaten to despoil it of its just destiny. So far, the moderation of its proceedings was its most hopeful feature. Without too closely enquiring into the constitution and organization of the first meeting of the Congress at Bombay, its subsequent Sessions at Calcutta and Madras went far to reassure the wavering and even inspire confidence in the mind of Government. Some of the highest officials came to regard it with more favor, and it is still an open secret that the present Government of India are disposed to make a substantial concession to its demands. Barring the unfortunate split with the Mahomedan community, all this augured a happy progress of events. Towards this position of things, the contributing agent was chiefly the character of sobriety and moderation in the proceedings of the Congress. The very pretence of this has now been abandoned, and, at the present moment, we have the strange spectacle of the Congress posing before the British public at home as a most uncompromising Liberal propaganda.

We call it a strange spectacle, because this is the first signal instance of an Indian party going clean over to any English political camp. In the best days of the British Indian Association—when the staid influence of sober counsellors like Kristo Das Pal directed the course of Indian politics—or in all the subsequent political activity of Bombay and Madras, our leading men always avoided the vortex of English political controversy. They never made the mistake of identifying themselves with any English party. They relied on the fact that the destinies of India were in the hands of the English Government, and they went no farther. They realized the fact that, apart from the chances and changes of their own political affairs, it was the substantive justice and liberality of the British nation that must, in the long run, influence the affairs of this country.

This has been the procedure of Indian politicians so far. In all their representations to the British Government, they scrupulously steered clear of burning questions of British politics. And very naturally. What could be the influence of their feeble voice upon the course of English party Government? On the other hand, the evil of exasperating one camp, by throwing in their lot with another, must have been real, sooner or later. We are not a little surprised, therefore, at the attitude assumed by some representatives of the Indian Congress of late, in disregard of all precedent—all our traditions. Our surprise is the more to find a man like our eminent countryman Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee laying himself out in the way he has now been doing, for the purposes of an ill-judged political agitation in the Radical interest. In our friend Mr. Bonnerjee's case, it is almost a falling off. Having hitherto kept himself from politics, one is at a loss to account for his sudden bursting forth into an out and out stumping Radical. Mr. Bonnerjee was filling with ability the office of Standing Counsel to Government in the Calcutta High Court, and we fairly looked forward to his one day being our Advocate-General. That would have been a greater gain in our present circumstances than the appointment of a dozen Native Judges to the several High Courts. His very official position naturally imposed on him restraints which might well dictate a more cautions and delicate dabbling, if at all, with politics. Fired with a zeal for the Congress, he might yet eschew the temptations of party. He might be guided by the example of moderation set by his countrymen in past years. It

would seem, however, the whole Congress is under foreign influences—that its lines are fixed by the hands of foreigners, and our countrymen are not the leaders themselves, but under the fascination of other leaders.

The Mahomedan defection—who again is responsible for the sorry spectacle of a house divided against itself? Not, for aught we know, the Mahomedan seceders. No proper and sufficiently cordial effort was made to secure their adhesion. The Bombay Congress met at the instance of a handful of men—the recognized leaders of Indian public opinion having had no place in it. Even the best of them had not been consulted. This mistake was to some extent rectified in the more constitutional procedure of the Calcutta Congress, and also of the last sitting at Madras, but the defect and practical evils of the original irregularity are incurable. The Mahomedans might well say they had not been thought of at first. This was a slight, and they might well bargain for guarantees against future slights. They might well apprehend the fate of being left in a miserable minority in the public or confidential deliberations of the body. The cut and dried plan of campaign incontinently affected by the leaders, left little hope of fair play. For the rest, Sir Ahmed's opposition is a turn in things which the leaders of the Congress have to thank themselves for. It is the very indiscretions of the Congress men that have provoked that rejoinder. Who, for instance, could be really taken in by the sham agitation concocted from Calcutta by the foolish extravagance of Surrender Nots and No Renders—by their sham telegrams of sham meetings, with exaggerated accounts of attendance, and of proceedings all cast in the same mould? The foreign training of some of our educated countrymen seems to have made them apt imitators of British forms and ways, but did they expect to keep their skill to themselves? The light they set up on the hill has illumined the valley, and, armed with their own weapons, Sir Ahmed has paid them back in their own coin. We never spared Sir Ahmed, but, in justice to him, it must be confessed that his propaganda is a legitimate retort to the Congress. There is about as much reality in the exuberant exhibitions of the one as of the other.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE LOYAL OFFER OF THE NATIVE STATES.

THE Government seem at length to have decided upon some plan for utilising the military offers of the Native States. To begin with, the Durbars of Patiala, Jheend and Nabha and Kappoorthala have been invited to send their delegates to a conference at Simla to hear the imperial views and say how best they could carry them out in their respective States. The Government plan has the merit of simplicity, whatever the cost to the Princes. We hope they will submit with grace, unless the burden be excessive. With what face can they complain? They have themselves invited the yoke and there is no help for it but to bend the neck. They have opened the embankment, what wonder if they are swept away by the flood? If they commenced lightly, following a fashion of the hour, without counting the responsibility, they will be rightly served for their culpable neglect of the difficult art of kingcraft or at least for their sin of not securing and trusting wise companions and able, enlightened and strong ministers. Even now, it is not too late. They should begin to put their

houses in order instant, or the consequences will be truly disastrous. Without the Government of India intending it, the present call will prove the beginning of their end. They must reform their administrations, if only to provide the ways and means for the additional drain without the ordinary Indian grace—not the increased cost simply, but the cash payment thereof at due dates. That is a horror yet un contemplated by Raja or Nawab and for which primitive races are unprepared.

The main question is no longer an open one. In fact, there has never been any question about the contemplated object. Whatever our disgust at the discreditable and foolish, because unnecessary, intrigue which was practised on the Nizam in the connection, and our contempt for its authors, the importance of the interest in which the trick was played is obvious. With a little patience and tact, and the proper exercise of legitimate influence, that interest would have been subserved all the same, and it is no small regret that the honor of a great policy should have been so causelessly sullied in the carrying out thereof at the very start. The Empire must be maintained, and it goes without saying that the native states, which are its natural buttresses and pillars, must support it. They preserved it once, in 1857, in gratitude and enlightened self-interest. For the same reasons, they must continue to do so hereafter whenever the need might arise. It is their duty—a task of honor and a necessity of self-preservation.

Since the above was in type we learn that Ulwar has asked for the services of a European officer to put her military establishments on an efficient footing, so as to be in a position to serve the Empire, and Major Melliss has been deputed from Simla on a mission to Cashmere to consult the Maharaja personally on the state of his troops. This consultation with a native Chief personally is usually a blind. In the present state of Cashmere affairs, it must be more than ever unreal. What can the Maharaja say? What does he know? The first step should be to allow him a capable minister. How long will this jealousy of constitutional rule in Native India continue?

[This article has been lying in type for some months until its facts are somewhat out of date, perhaps. Our views are our own, however, and they have not been anticipated during all this time.]

ITALIAN ATTITUDE TOWARDS FRANCE.

NATIONS, like individuals, have their virtues as well as vices. Even so have they their rewards and penalties. Some have been famous for their teachery as others for their generosity. Some are esteemed for remembering their benefactors, while others are execrated for ignoring services in critical times. A notable instance of national ingratitude is afforded by the Italians in their present attitude towards France. It is a miserable case of kicking the ladder when you have gained your height. If there is any one nation more than another, to whom Italy is indebted for her unification and independence, it is unquestionably the French people. Other countries may have lent her their moral influence in her struggles to free herself from foreign domination and home misrule, it was France that shed her blood and lavished her treasures to secure her the desired boon. Italy could not, within so short a time, have attained, as she did, her present position and influence, without the material assistance of France.

Italy, as every reader of European history knows, was divided into a number of petty states, each of which considered its interests distinct from or even hostile to those of the others. The policy pursued by the States of the Church was shaped more for the promotion of the Pontifical interests than for the welfare of the people. The same was the case with the other states. The interests of the people were

subordinated to those of the reigning Houses, and not unfrequently sacrificed for individual advancement. Nor was Austrian domination less galling in Italy. Indeed, domestic misrule and foreign oppression crushed the Italian people, so that they became a byword and a reproach among nations.

It was the French, who, by conquering Italy in their Revolutionary Wars, first awakened in the Italian mind a foretaste for political homogeneity. That conquest proved the possibility of a United Italy. The vision of United Italy with Rome for its capital, dimly seen by Dante and sadly sung by Petrarch and others, was verified by the French, and, although many an attempt for its realization proved abortive, it never died out of the Italian mind. As the great English Bard who so loved, and long lived in, Italy, and died for her sister peninsula of Greece, truly teaches—

For Freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeath'd by bleeding Sire to Son,
Though baffled oft is ever won.

The history of Italy for the last 60 years, is emphatically the history of struggles of the Italian people to make that vision a reality. It is true that the facile pen of Mazzini, the puissant arm of Garibaldi, and the farseeing sagacity of Cavour, did much to bring about the final result, but their contributions would have been far less effective, had they not been actively seconded by French co-operation. Patriotism without powder and shot is a cry in the desert. Diplomacy has no *locus standi* where there are no battalions, *in esse* or *in posse*, in the background. And guerillaism of even Heaven-born generals goes but a small way against Quadrilaterals and regular armies. Were it not for the substantial patronage of a Great Power, Italy would, in all human probability, be still only "a geographical expression." It was France that not only helped Italy to expel her foreign oppressors and her home tyrants, but also to retain her advantage. Montebello and Magenta and Salferino will remain the lasting witnesses of what France had done for Italy. And yet, for all this, how shabbily she has been treated by the Italians! They have abandoned her alliance and transferred their allegiance and friendship to her enemy. The present isolation of France is to be attributed, in a great measure, to their attitude towards that country. They do not even scruple to insult her!

Italy's ingratitude to France has not passed without comment or rebuke. It was only the other day, that one of the Generals in the Italian War of Independence directed his sons, by his will, to migrate into France and become naturalized subjects there. Italy, said the hero, was no longer worthy of his sons.

How unlike the treatment France has received from the people of the Great Republic of the West, whom she aided in their struggles for independence! What reception the citizens of the United States accorded to the French General who fought their battles with all a Frenchman's chivalry and devotion, is now matter of history. In that Greater Britain, France is respected, her interests are cared for, her reverses are sympathised with; and if their constitution permitted it, the Americans would have repaid their debt by giving her material assistance in the time of her need. If ingratitude in individuals is reprehensible, it is equally so in nations, which are but bodies of individuals in political union geographically distributed.

"Ingratitude! thou marble-hearted fiend,
More hideous, when thou show'st thee in a *race*,
Than the sea-monster!"

THE PERSONAL HAPPINESS OF MAGISTRATES.

THE sensation which a few years back was caused in India by Mr. Justice Fjeld's prosecution of her Indian nurse, must be still fresh in the mind of the reader. It now appears that the great dignity of the Bench was not more fortunate in his choice of a wife than his employment of an Ayah—Indian nurse. It is certain that the retired Judge Charles Dickenson Field of our High Court was not happy in his English home. He seems to have long struggled manfully—Mrs. Field bore Mr. Field six children—but to no purpose, until he utterly grew sick of his wife, and separated. In March last, she presented a petition to the Divorce Court for restitution of conjugal rights. He met the application by charging her with cruelty. That charge was subsequently

withdrawn and the decree went against him by default. Still he refused to receive her as wife. There was a fresh petition to Court by the wife, and Sir James Hannen has pronounced a decree of judicial separation with costs, and the custody of the children.

The charge of cruelty is not uncommon in such cases, but it is usually preferred by the woman against the man. Here the usual order is reversed. The stronger vessel complains of the weaker—the pewter pot dreads the propinquity of the clay *handi*—or, as the Indian vessel of unglazed earth may do an injustice to the fine White lady, let us say, Dresden China. As a Judge, Mr. Field was not a success, but he was a man of undoubted ability, and has enriched Indian juridical and state literature. Even though his temper is not of the best, such a man is not likely to rush to the public thoroughfare to wash his dirtiest domestic linen. And Mr. Field did not do so. When he could not get on with his formidable spouse any longer, he simply separated from her. It is the wife that would force herself upon her routed and retreating husband. It was then, under compulsion, when she claimed her conjugal right to bed and board in the society of her husband, that the poor man was out with his secret—that she was intolerable for cruelty. And the experienced matrimonial British Kadi-in-chief was convinced of the justice of his allegation, and took pity on him so far as to release him from the fetters of a most disagreeable connection.

The world with mistaken chivalry too often blames men in such quarrels. Here at least the man is the true object of pity. Here the grey mare is the—*worse* horse; it would scarcely be unfair to call her the tigress. As we have hinted before, Mr. Field was far from a paragon of good temper himself. It must be a tigress that could get the better of the bear—in the little domestic passages at arms that must have occurred in their common den, before the Judge could decently escape to the fastness of the court-house, or after he was driven back from the latter at the end of the day's judicial work. As we remember him in office, Mr. Field was of a Saturnine aspect and a morose disposition, which not unoften broke out in curt little speeches to practitioners before him, occasionally in savage insults, as when at Moorshedabad he came down on Baboo Gooroodas Banerjee, just elevated to the bench of the High Court from which the other has retired, for a failure of English on one occasion, with the remark in Indian vernacular, that the Pleader should address the court in his mother tongue (the Bengali). Who could have thought that the poor British Judge was haunted by a skeleton in his heart?

This revelation is far from pleasant in any aspect. A Gooroodas Banerjee may afford to smile at a desolate Field. Such men are not snuffed out by an individual monster on the bench. But inferior Vakeels and practitioners—and the world abounds in inferior men—must suffer in silence. Above all, what an amount of injustice is not perpetrated by administrators who are unhappy at home! How many of those who lost their cases before Judge Field owed their misfortune to Mrs. Field! For this reason, at all events, the domestic affairs of our rulers—judges, criminal and civil, in especial—are worth inquiring into by the public.

Are there no desolate Fields still remaining—to the misfortune of the Queen's lieges?

State Paper.

No. 16, dated Calcutta the 5th January, 1888.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Prideaux, Agent to the Governor-General in Council for the Affairs of the late King of Oudh.

To—W. J. Cunningham Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

[Continued from p. 490.]

22. In addition to these sons, there are two children who were recognized by the late King as his own offspring and who each received from him an allowance of Rs. 90 per mensem. The names of these children are (1) Khadim-ul-Aima Mirza Muhammad Ijaz Hossain Bahadur, and (2) Kiswa Bakht Mirza Muhammad Abbas Hossain Bahadur, and their age is seven years. Under the orders conveyed in your office letter No. 581-P., dated 4th January 1881, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal (Political Department), these children have not yet been officially recognized, nor have I deemed it advisable to pay them since the death of the King the allowances which they formerly received. Looking to the purport of these orders, I do not think it necessary to discuss the question of the legitimacy of these children, but in consideration

of the fact that they have hitherto been treated within the precincts of the palace as the offspring of the King, and have no means of support beyond what they may receive from the bounty of Government, I would venture to suggest, for consideration, that they should each be granted as dependants of the late King the sum of Rs. (90) ninety per mensem as a pension terminable on their death.

23. There are seventeen surviving daughters of the late King, each of whom draws, under the scheme of the Committee, the sum of Rs. 110 per mensem. Of these ladies, the eldest, Nawab Sarir Ara Zainab Begam Sahiba, is married to a son of the late King's nephew Jehan Kadr Mirza; the next in point of age is married to a son of the late King's younger brother, Sulaiman Kadr Mirza; eleven are the wives of gentlemen of good family at Lucknow, and four are residing unmarried at Garden Reach. Only one of these, Nawab Badshah Ara Kaniz Hadi Begam Sahiba, is motherless. I have received several memorials from these ladies, of whom the majority are in indifferent circumstances, and would venture to recommend that they each, with the exception of the eldest, be granted a pension of Rs. (150) one hundred and fifty per mensem which is slightly in excess of the allowance which they have hitherto drawn from the King, namely, Rs. 110 per mensem. The position of the eldest daughter merits, I think, exceptional treatment. The following allowances were drawn by her and her husband:—

Nawab Sarir Ara Zainab Begam Sahiba ...	110 per mensem.
Jahan Kadr Mirza (husband) ...	90 „
Mustafa Begum Sahiba (daughter) ...	45 „
Mooteza Begam Sahiba (daughter) ...	45 „
Sarar Jigar Begam Sahiba (daughter) ...	25 „

Total Rs. ... 315 per mensem.

On attaining the age of fifteen, the daughters under the Committee's scheme (paragraph 20 of Report,) as modified by Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal (No. 1850, dated 31st August 1880, paragraph 10,) would draw Rs. 70 per mensem each, which would raise the total emoluments drawn by the family to Rs. 410 per mensem. The Mirza was also many years ago granted the use of a house within the precincts of the Sultan Khana, or royal residence, the value of which can not be estimated at less than Rs. 100 per mensem, and which he will probably be called upon to vacate when landed property belonging to the estate is in course of realization. In order therefore to compensate the family for the losses they have incurred by the King's death, I would propose, for consideration, that the eldest daughter, Nawab Sarir Ara Zainab Begam Sahiba, be granted a pension of Rs. 500 per mensem, together with an allowance for house rent of Rs. 100 per mensem, it being understood that the allowances hitherto drawn by Jehan Kadr Mirza and his children shall lapse in accordance with the principle which I venture to think should be followed in the bestowal of these pensions. As the Mirza draws a pension of Rs. 1,500 per mensem as a collateral relative of His late Majesty and also possesses other small sources of income, I consider that the additional sum of Rs. 600 per mensem should be sufficient to maintain the family in a manner befitting their rank. If the Begam were to predecease her husband, the question of the continuance of her pension could be considered by Government upon its merits.

24. My proposals for pensionary allowances to the grandsons of the late King will of course have reference only to those whose fathers are no longer living. These are five in number—

1. Kara Shappar Mirza Muhammad Jah Ali Bahadur; and
2. Mirza Kurrat-ul-Ain Bahadur, the children of the late Wali Ahd, Prince Mirza Muhammad Hamid Ali Bahadur.
3. Maimanat Mirza Gholam Ahid Bahadur, son of the late Kara Hussein Mirza Bahadur.
4. Mirza Faridoon Jah Bahadur; and
5. Mirza Humayun Kadr Bahadur; the sons of the late eldest son Prince Faridoon Kadr Mirza Huzbar Ali Bahadur.

The last three of these grandsons of His late Majesty are below 15 years of age, and therefore under the Committee's scheme would only draw Rs. 80 per mensem, while the two elder ones draw Rs. 120 per mensem, and would be entitled to an additional grant of Rs. 50 per mensem on marriage, or an aggregate of Rs. 170 per mensem each. In modification of this arrangement I would, after full consideration of the subject, recommend that the grandsons over the age of 18 years be allotted pensions of Rs. 300 per mensem, while the three others should draw Rs. 120 per mensem, to be raised to Rs. 300 on reaching the age of 18. It is proper to mention that the two sons of the late Wali Ahd are the legal heirs of the Nawab Khas Mchal Sahiba, who is a lady of considerable property, but she is so much under the influence of a distant relative, who is known by the name of Pearsa Sahib, that it is doubtful if they will succeed to more than a small portion of the inheritance. The two youngest boys are also co-sharers in the estate of their late father, the Prince Faridoon Kadr Mirza, which is in the hands of the Administrator-General, and is in course of administration by a suit in the High Court, but after the costs of litigation have been met, it is doubtful if there will be a large balance in favour of the heirs. I do not think therefore that these contingencies should affect the scale on which pensions may be granted to the grandsons.

25. Under the principle upon which these proposals are based, there is only one surviving granddaughter of His Majesty who has a claim to pension under the Committee's scheme (paragraph 29 of Committee's Report). This is Kishwar Ara Begam Sahiba, the infant daughter of the late Prince Faridoon Kadr Mirza, who was granted by the King, not long before his death, an allowance of Rs. 70 per mensem. I would propose that this young lady, who is now only 7 years of age, be granted a pension of Rs. (45) forty-five per mensem until she reaches the age of 18 or is married, when the pension should be raised to Rs. (90) ninety per mensem for life.

26. There is however a granddaughter of His late Majesty who no longer draws an allowance, but is I venture to think entitled to the favorable consideration of His Excellency in Council. This is Nawab Dilbund Begam Sahiba, the daughter of the late Wali Ahd, Prince Hamid Ali Bahadoor. About two years ago she married a young nobleman of Lucknow, who unfortunately died, leaving her completely penniless. Under the Committee's arrangements (paragraph 29 of Report) the allowances made by His late Majesty to granddaughters differed from those made to daughters in the fact of their being only payable "up to marriage." On this young lady's marriage, therefore, her allowance ceased, and she returned to Calcutta, where she has since been supported by her grand-mother, the Nawab Khas Mahal, and her brother, Mirza Kurrat-ul-Ain. She has suffered severely from illness during her stay in Calcutta, and being entirely destitute of means, her situation is extremely precarious. In view of the exceptional circumstances of her case and the fact that with the exception of Kishwar Ara Begam, she is the only fatherless granddaughter of His late Majesty, I would strongly recommend, for the favorable consideration of the Governor-General in Council, that Nawab Dilbund Begam Sahiba be granted a life pension of Rs. (90) ninety per mensem, which would be sufficient to meet her wants.

27. The following are the names of the widowed daughters-in-law of His late Majesty who have been granted allowances from his treasury :—

1. Nawab Shahryar Bahoo Sahiba ; and
2. Nawab Begam *alias* Keykob Mahal Sahiba, widow of the late Wali Ahd, Prince Hamid Ali Bahadur.
3. Mahrjchan Begam Sahiba, a widow of the late Prince Khosh Bakht Bahadur.
4. Hoozoor Mahal Sahiba, a widow of the late Prince Faridoon Kadr Mirza Bahadur.

28. The case of Nawab Shahryar Bahoo Sahiba was discussed in paragraph 31 of the Committee's Report, and an allowance of Rs. 350 per mensem was, in consideration of the position she formerly occupied, recommended, but reduced to Rs. 200 per mensem by orders of Government. I would venture to propose that this sum be granted to her as a pension for the remainder of her life.

29. The Nawab Begam *alias* Nawab Keykob Mahal Sahiba also draws an allowance of Rs. 200 per mensem under the circumstances detailed in paragraph 32 of the Committee's Report. She is the mother of Mirza Kurrat-ul-Ain and Dilbund Begam Sahiba, who have been mentioned in preceding paragraphs. She has no other means of support than her allowance, and I would therefore recommend that she receive an equivalent sum as a pension henceforward.

30. In the case of Mahrjchan Begam Sahiba, the Committee (paragraph 33 of Report) accepted the King's proposal that she should be allowed Rs. 50 per mensem on the ground that she lived with her mother-in-law Nawab Akhtar Mahal Sahiba, who was wealthy and that she had therefore no expenses of her own. I have already pointed out that the statement regarding the Nawab Akhtar Mahal's wealth is no longer in consonance with facts, and as she was married to the King while His Majesty was still on the throne at Lucknow and is advanced in years, her daughter-in-law cannot expect to enjoy for a great length of time the advantage of living with her. The Begam belongs to a respectable but not wealthy Moghul family of Calcutta and on the death of her mother-in-law will be left without any means of support beyond her pension. She is a lady of exemplary character, and is fully deserving of the consideration of Government. I therefore venture to recommend that she be granted a life pension of Rs. 100 per mensem, which would be sufficient to ensure her comfort if she resided with her family.

31. Hoozoor Mehal Sahiba is the mother of Kishwar Ara Begam (see paragraph 15) and was granted by the King an allowance of Rs. 30 per mensem upon her husband's death. This allowance she has hitherto refused to accept, on the ground that it is totally inadequate to her position and requirements. I consider there is much force in her objections and I am not aware of any reason why she should be placed on such a different footing from the widows of Prince Hamid Ali Bahadur. I would therefore recommend that, as the principal surviving widow of the late eldest son of His Majesty, she be granted a life pension of Rs. 100 per mensem.

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence, of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to bark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood*." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest; the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Anurita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—*The Indian Magazine*, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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We have read Srimati Girindra Mohiny's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

The tone of the poems is inexpressibly gentle, inexpressibly pure, and inexpressibly tender and affectionate. It is the tone of a world mother.

Bengal should be proud of this poem.—*The Calcutta Review.*

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1888.

No. 347

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE STEPMOTHER.

BY DR. JOHN B. M'CAHE.

THEY tell me I am motherless ! they say my mother died
When I was but an infant child, and that I sobbed and cried.
They tell me too, that she who sets me often on her knee,
Is not my mother—yet she is a mother kind to me.
Her face is very saintly calm, her eye is very mild—
She kisses me full oft, and says, I am "her pretty child !"
And often, when she thinks I sleep, her soft hand pale and fair,
Is laid upon my infant brow, and then she breathes a prayer.
When sickness o'er my frame has spent its very weakening powers
She pulls for me, and brings them in, spring's earliest, sweetest
flowers—
And when my racking fevers rise, and soothing draughts I'd sip,
She gently raises up my head, and cools my parching lip.
And when she sees that slumber's veil is gathering o'er my eye,
She pats my cheek, and sings to me the soothing lullaby.
And O ! I dream so sweetly then, of angels' visits here,
And wake and find it true—for she, sweet one, is hovering near.
And when I get my little books, she teaches me to spell,
Till words so difficult to call I learn so very well—
And then she sweetly kisses me, and smooths each straggling curl ;
And makes me love her when she says, " You are my own sweet
girl."
Mother, I love her ! from thy home 'mid heaven's eternal rest,
Where tears of anguish never fall, nor sorrows heave the breast,
I know thou'lt smile to see thy child hath found a mother's love,
In one whose dove-like spirit shall mingle with thine above.

YEARNING FOR WONDERLAND.

From the German of Schiller.

Ah ! that I could wing my way
Through earth's valley—deep and dreary
Ah ! that I could float all day,
Pinions never tired or weary,
O'er the everlasting hills,
And the ever gushing rills,
Where come blight and sorrow never,
Ever green and youthful ever !
Where heaven's harmonies resound,
Holy Peace forever singing ;
Where light Zephyr sports around,
Odors from the flower-buds wringing ;
Through the trees' dark foliage dancing—
O'er the fruit all golden glancing—
By no wintry blast affrighted—
Kissing the soft flowers delighted :
Flowers that never lose the sun ;
Never close the laughing eye ;
With existence never done ;
Know not what it is to die !

Woe is me ! what rolls between ?

'T is a rapid river rushing—

'T is the stream of death, I ween,

Wildly tossing, hoarsely gushing ;

While my very heart-strings quiver

At the roar of that dread river !

But I see a little boat

The rough waters gently riding ;

How can she so fearless float ?

For I see no pilot guiding.

Courage !—on ! there's no retreating ;

Sails are spread in friendly greeting.

On, then, on !—in love we trust !

The white-armed sails a message bear :

" There are wonders everywhere :

The wondrous faith wherein you stand

Must bear you to the Wonderland ! "

THE LONGING.

From out this dim and gloomy hollow,

Where hang the cold clouds heavily,

Could I but gain the clue to follow,

How blessed would the journey be !

Aloft I see a fair dominion,

Through time and change all vernal still :

But where the power, and what the pinion,

To gain the ever-blooming hill ?

Afar I hear the music ringing,

The lulling sounds of heaven repose,

And the light gales are downward bringing

The sweets of flowers the mountain knows.

I see the fruit all golden glowing,

Beckon the glossy leaves between ;

And o'er the blooms that there are blowing,

Nor blight, nor winter's wrath hath been.

To suns that shine forever yonder,

O'er fields that fade not, sweet to flee :

The very winds that there may wander,

How healing must their breathing be !

But lo ! between us rolls a river,

A death in every billow raves ;

I feel the soul within me shiver,

To gaze upon the gloomy waves.

A rocking boat mine eyes discover,

But, woe is me ! the pilot fails !

In, boldly in ! undaunted rover !

And trust the life that swells the sails.

Thou must believe, and thou must venture,

In fearless faith thy safety dwells :

By miracles, alone, men enter

The glorious land of miracles !

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THEY are doing the word *sanitarium* to death. Nothing but a sanitarium now! It is stated the Maharaja of Cashmere has presented a plot of ground to the Parsees of Jummoo for a sanitarium for themselves. For a Parsee settlement, we suppose. All Cashmere is a sanitarium, like all Darjeeling.

THE capital sentence on Chuttoo Mehter for murder of his sister-in-law, has been commuted to transportation for life. The reason alleged for this act of mercy is that he was suffering from temporary insanity when he committed the deed. This is being just by half. On the ground stated, the prisoner should have been pardoned and set free.

YET another invention—to swamp the telegraph and the telephone. Professor Elisha Gray of America is said to have come upon an instrument by which the sender of a message can, by writing it at one end, instantly reproduce it in his own autograph to authenticate it, at the other end.

THE Whitechapel murders have driven more than one Englishwoman mad. One has died and another has been committed to a lunatic asylum.

H. H. Mir Ali Murad Sahrab Khan Talpuria of Khairpur, Sind, and Raja Muhammad Amir Hossein Khan Bahadoor of Mahmudabad, Sitapur District, Oudh, have been made Life Councillors of the National Association for supplying female medical aid to the women of India. They have subscribed Rs. 5,000 each to the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

LORD LANSDOWNE has chosen as his Private Secretary Colonel J. C. Ardagh. He will not, however, be due in India till after 3 months of his Lordship's arrival.

THE Viceroy, as we announced last week, leaves Simla on Tuesday, the 13th, and, after visiting Lahore, Patiala and Dacca, arrives at Calcutta on Thursday the 29th. The Marquis of Dufferin and Ava will be accompanied in his tour by Her Excellency the Marchioness, Lady Helen Blackwood, Lady Hermione Blackwood, by the Private, Military and Foreign Secretaries, the Viceroy's Surgeon, by four A. D. C.'s, and by another gentleman, Mr. J. McFerran.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returns to the capital on Monday the 12th, but not to stay. Next Wednesday the 14th, he starts on his Orissa tour, arriving at Chandbally on the 15th and at Cuttack the next day. After a halt there of three days, on the 20th he moves on to Khoorda, to Pooree on the 22nd, and to False Point on the 24th, reaching Balasore on the 25th. He stops here for 2 days. On the 28th, to Nilgiri and back. Leaving Balasore on the 29th, Sir Steuart Bayley comes back to Calcutta on Friday the 30th, that is, one day later than Lord Dufferin. Who then receives the Viceroy?

WE note with gratification the Gazette announcement that Mr. R. C. Dutt, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Mymensingh, is confirmed in that appointment. Mymensingh is a most heavy and difficult District, and it speaks not a little for the confidence of Government in this gentleman that it should be entrusted to a native officer. We may mention in this connection that Mr. Dutt is not the only "Baboo" in it. He has for Lieutenant in charge of a litigious Subdivision—Jamalpur of evil notoriety—a Hindu officer of great promise, Mr. Barada Charan Mitra, the Champion Statutory Civilian, whose masterly essay has already turned the tide of public opinion in favour of his branch of the Service, against the doom pronounced on it, at the instance of irresponsible ignorant agitators, by the Public Service Commission.

WE have just received news from Midnapore. Society is "exercised" at the prospect of losing its favorite physician. The good Civil Surgeon of the district, Dr. A. Tomes, is very likely to be transferred to Patna. There is honey in the cup of gall, however, in the fact that another equally good and popular officer, Mr. J. Pratt, the officiating Judge, is confirmed in his appointment.

A COURT of Session for the Singbhoom district has been sanctioned at Purulia.

EMIGRATION to the French Colonies of Martinique and Guadeloupe has been prohibited by the Governor-General in Council.

FROM the 3rd of this month, the postage duty on letters from British India to the British Australasian Colonies has been fixed at 5 annas per half ounce or fractions of half ounce.

ON payment by the Ahmedabad Municipality of Rs. 2,000 as composition for stamp duty on that behalf, the debenture loan for Rs. 4,00,000 which that municipality has been allowed to raise, has been exempted from any stamp duty, otherwise chargeable, whether on issue, renewal, subdivision, or consolidation.

FOR quicker mail service, and as an experimental measure, a special mail train has been ordered for eight weeks, commencing with Wednesday, the 20th February 1889. The cost has been calculated at Rs. 1,546 per week. To make up the sum, letters by the special will be charged a special fee of 1½ anna—that is, the rate will be 6 annas per ½ oz. instead of 4½ annas—and none but fully prepaid letters will be carried. Only first and second class passengers and their servants bound for Bombay will be admitted into this train. It will leave Calcutta every Wednesday at 8 P.M., arriving at Bombay on Friday at 3 P.M., in time for the departure of the mail from Bombay. The permanency of this new accommodation for Calcutta will depend upon the success of the experiment.

AT the request of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Trustees of the Bengal Distress Fund have made a second grant of Rs. 1,000, making a total grant of Rs. 2,000 up to date, to the Central Relief Committee at Midnapore, of which the Collector is Chairman, and Deputy Collector, Mr. U. C. Mookerjee, Secretary, and Rs. 1,000 to the Commissioner of Orissa, with a request to the Collector of Cuttack to make over to Mr. Worsley any balance of former grants in his hands for the same purpose.

They have also given Rs. 600 to Mr. C. W. Bolton, Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs, for the purchase of *Bora* paddy seed to aid the people in the southern portion of that District whose crops have been destroyed by flood. The devoted Roman Catholic Missionaries in that part of the District have undertaken to superintend the distribution of the seed grain and to report to the Collector.

WHAT is Europe coming to? The end seems nearer than it ever was suspected. *Vanity Fair*—one of the London Society papers—in the number received three weeks ago, refers to the Bible as an indecent book and compares it with the "Decamerone" of Boccaccio.

It is not to be wondered at that the writings supposed to have been inspired by the phallic god should not be overpure, but it is sad to think that the mind of man can be so dominated by tradition that he can consider it right to place such archaic literature, without careful editing, in the hands of children in this country.

The unenlightened Western man, unable to follow the leaders of thought—the Darwins, Spencers, Huxleys, Proctors, &c., who have cast off the chains of the mind, still reverently bows the knee to the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity. It is but a thin veneer of civilization that covers him; scratch it and the savage and his fetish are at once disclosed. The world is much the same in essentials, in all its parts. Ignorance is ignorance and superstition, superstition all the earth over.

COLONEL PARRY NISBET, Commissioner, Rawal Pindi, succeeds Mr. Plowden in the Cashmere Residency.

THE Dewan of Baroda, Rao Bahadur Lukshman Jagannath, is expected to retire shortly, when Dewan Bahadur Manibhai Jasubhai is to take his place.

HAVING drained his treasury, the white Mahrattas about the Nizam have advised him to invest what little might be left of it in a new Mint, with extensive works and scientific machinery for coining—air, we suppose. Already, it is said, half a lac has been sanctioned for machinery, and Rs. 15,000 for buildings. A monthly sum of Rs. 15,000 will

be required for necessary establishment. Of course, an engineer has turned up capable of turning out better coins than now obtain, if the bullion be forthcoming. He is also capable of introducing modern scientific appliances for their manufacture—at any cost.

THE Maharaja of Benares has been very ill and fears were entertained of his safety. The Viceroy, through his Private Secretary, telegraphed a message of inquiry which was hopefully replied to, on the Maharaja's behalf, by Raja Siva Prasad. We are glad to hear that the old Reis is considered out of danger.

THE Presidential Elections in America have been carried by General Harrison by 65 votes over the head of President Cleveland.

WE are glad to find at last a disposition in Government to check the Loot that openly goes on, on all sides. The G. I. P. Railway Company voted Rs. 5,000 to Mr. F. W. Stevens for special services in designing and carrying out the new Victoria terminal building, Bombay. The Government, it is said, have vetoed the grant, as in their opinion Mr. Stevens had had enough remuneration while actually engaged on the work.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HARRY TREVOR BULKLEY, Bombay Staff Corps, an officer of the Regular Force, is being tried by Court Martial, at Mhow, on no less than fifteen charges—of fraudulent misapplication of various sums of money, or deficiencies in the account, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. They are reducible under five main heads :

“The first has to do with a sum of money paid to the credit of the regiment for charpoys made over to the 30th Bombay Infantry, part of which sum, it is said, was paid in to Colonel Bulkley's private account, and retained by him. Secondly, deficiencies are alleged in the half-mounting fund amounting to Rs. 5,000. Again, Colonel Bulkley is charged with having on different occasions drawn cheques upon the regimental band fund, aggregating in all Rs. 3,800, and appropriating the money to his own use. The hutting allowance accounts are also alleged to show a deficiency of Rs. 2,815; and finally the charge-sheet states that, exclusive of the above deficiencies, Rs. 10,085 is wanting from the regimental cash balances and unaccounted for.”

The prisoner, in defence, made a statement to the following effect :—

“Regarding the first charge—that relating to the Rs. 533—he contended that this sum should have been deducted from his January's pay drawn in February 1887, when he proceeded to England after his regiment arrived in Bombay from Quetta; but said that when informed by the Paymaster, that the amount was still due—this was in March last—he paid it at once. Regarding the Rs. 672 he urged, that the prosecution having failed to prove that the money reached his hands, he could hardly be charged with its fraudulent misapplication. He added that, on the contrary, he had shown by the Bombay Bank's letters, and telegrams that the cheque for Rs. 672 was cashed by one Ramchand, whom prisoner never saw or heard of, and whose whereabouts could not be traced, although prisoner had applied to the Police Commissioner at Calcutta to try and find him. Respecting the general deficiency of Rs. 5,187, he explained that the sum of Rs. 2,980 was credited in the regimental books, Rs. 1,312 advanced to the Paymaster when prisoner was in England, and Rs. 166 paid to the native officers discharged owing to the late Bombay riot. The evidence he thought tended to support his statements, and to show that his deposit of Rs. 4,200 with the regiment would more than cover the balance due.”

MR. ARTHUR CRAWFORD, as befits the veteran of the Bombay Civil Service, is great even in his fall. He is a Grand Old Man under a cloud. The Impeachment of Warren Hastings was reduced to twenty Articles. There are as many as thirty-three charges against Mr. Crawford. He is accused of corruptly receiving money from the following persons, as follows :—

1	From	Balgovind Sindekar	...	Rs. 2,000
2	"	Dahir ...	...	3,000
3	"	R. Y. Shondar ...	...	500
4	"	Jeshwant Rao Tambe	...	500
5	"	Jawakir ...	...	500
6	"	Chunchowlakir ...	...	1,500
7	"	Damke ...	...	400
8	"	Vince ...	...	1,000
9	"	Negurkur ...	...	500
10	"	Purranje ...	...	1,000
11	"	Deshpande ...	...	500
12	"	Kelkar ...	...	800
13	"	Tukke ...	...	1,000
14	"	Dravid ...	...	1,000
15	"	Trilokar ...	...	1,000
16	"	Pitankur ...	...	400
17	"	Patwardhan ...	...	1,500
18	"	Somdate ...	...	1,500
19	"	Baballay ...	...	2,000

20	"	Yeshwantrao ...	...	500
21	"	Balkishen ...	...	2,500
22	"	Putwardhan ...	...	1,500
23	"	Putwardhan ...	...	900
24	"	Balkishen ...	...	5,000
25	"	Phadke ...	...	2,000
26	"	Dajee Patel (Personally)	...	400
27	"	Govind Patel ...	...	400
28	"	Tarube ...	...	700
29	"	The Chief of Bhore ...	...	10,000
30	"	Balishen ...	...	500
31	"	Bate ...	...	1,000
32	"	Bate ...	...	500

The peculations are, with a single exception, all mean even for a Menon and utterly beneath the Lord of a Divisional Government, but in the aggregate, they contrive to obtain some dignity.

The thirty-third charge avers that he borrowed money in contravention of the terms of his covenant. To this, Mr. Crawford put in the following statement :

“I admit having borrowed sums of money from the persons mentioned as witnesses to the 33rd charge down to and inclusive of Sorabjee Cowasjee Captain. I admit being indebted to Ladha Ebrahim, but the said indebtedness did not arise from borrowing transactions but is the balance of a running account for goods supplied. I admit having borrowed Rs. 2,000 from Govind Bodharao, but I do not admit at the time of such borrowing that his son was a Karkoon in the Mamlatdar office at Athni, or to my knowledge in the Government service. I do not admit borrowing money from the Administrator of Eshwantrao Kashirao. I do not admit that I borrowed Rs. 300 from Mr. K. B. Pendse as a loan. I do not admit that I borrowed money from Ganesh Balal Maleker. I do not admit that I borrowed money from Vishun Bapujee Soman. I do not admit that I borrowed money from Ganesh Chimanjee. I admit that Ramchand Krishna Shahane supplied oats, paying cart-hire in June, 1888. I am not able to admit the amount as the account has not been yet sent to me. The Bijapore china purchased in 1883 mentioned under the name of Narayan Chintan and Soman was bought by Sir James Fergusson and other members of the Governor's party, including myself. The mamletdar was told to settle with the various sellers and forward the china. I subsequently collected from the purchasers the sums due by each, and the mamletdar was paid in 1883. Save as aforesaid I do not admit the allegation with reference to the purchase of Bijapur china. Save so far as herein expressly admitted I plead not guilty to the 33rd charge.”

UNDER the head of Facetiae, we read in the Madras Argus :—

“George, dear,” she said, reproachfully, as she clung fondly around his neck, “why will you eat raw onions when you know you are coming to see me?” “Merely to test your love, my precious,” replied George.

A correspondent writing from London says that Sir Lepel Griffin is not likely to return to India.

According to the *Overland Mail*, Sir Lepel hesitates to return to India on account of the depreciated rupee.

DR. CHAMBERS having gone on leave, Syud Ameer Hossein, Northern Division Magistrate, has, in addition to his own, been put in charge of the Colonial duties.

MR. COLMAN MACAULAY has been placed on special duty in connection with the scheme for reduction of expenditure rendered imperative by the frontier expeditions. Mr. Cotton officiates as Financial Secretary to the Government of Bengal. He seems to be good for any Department. He acted for Mr. Nolan while that General, Revenue and Statistical Secretary was on special duty to report on Lower Burma as a field for emigration.

RAJA SIVA PRASAD has so long been allowed to do just as suits him at the Holy City of his residence, that he naturally forgets that the Railway is not the Maharaja. This mnemonic lapse is near landing him in the criminal court, for forcing open the barriers leading to the Duffern Bridge, when the barriers were closed for the passage of a down train. The Traffic Inspector, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, has reported that the titled schoolmaster drove up to the bridge, and finding the barriers up, set his syce down who undid the chains. At that time a train was almost immediately due on the bridge, and had it arrived up to time, the consequences might have even awful. The Raja's account is that, when his carriage reached the barrier, the gates were locked, but the gates were soon after opened for the passage of a country cart, and taking this opportunity, his coachman passed over immediately behind the cart.

ONE Baranoshy Chowdry, of Dhoshia in the interior of Howrah, aged about sixty and apparently in good health, was playing at cards when he, throwing a card with some degree of excitement, fell down and was picked up dead.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

BURMA is to be raised to a Lieutenant-Government. That may be some consolation to the Upper Burmans as soon as they can reconcile themselves to a foreign domination.

WEDNESDAY week, after nightfall, Madras was visited by a storm. The wind attained a height of 46 miles, the gusts were more violent still. The barometer fell to 29", the lowest of the last 28 years. Nearly ten inches of rain fell. Many trees were uprooted blocking the roads; the leaves of standing trees were twisted and blackened, the branches hanging down. The native huts were entirely swept away, and several buildings were damaged, specially in the roofs. The storm was highest between 8 and 9 P.M. The British India Line *Bhandura*, with the other steamers in port, was ordered out to sea on Tuesday afternoon. She fell into the storm, and having suffered terribly, had to be towed into the Madras Roads on the 3rd instant. She leaned fearfully on her side, otherwise as she had ten feet of small beer—mixture of beer and water—in the hold, in which the casks floated gaily about, neither crew nor passengers could enjoy the situation. Her awnings were gone, the fires extinguished and the engines clogged, and from 9 o'clock of Wednesday night to 2 o'clock on Thursday morning, when she was about 40 miles out at sea, she was completely at the mercy of the elements. She had over six hundred coolies on board. Five of these were killed and twenty severely wounded.

As usual, most of the papers have copied the *Pioneer's* telegrams, without trying to understand all their mysteries. The *Pioneer* wails themselves were hardly better of in that regard, we suspect. Their Madras man played on them—landsmen up in the country where a sailing sloop would be a curiosity a practical joke, by wiring such sea gibberish as that the *Bhandura* "has a considerable list to port," which we have in the above paragraph reduced to Her Majesty's *khas*.

What hid'st thou in thy treasure-caves and cells?
Thou *all-devouring* and *relentless wave*!
—Pale glistening pearls, and rainbow-coloured shells,
Which gicam low down the Hoogly's muddy cave?
—Keep, keep thy riches, melancholy stream!
We ask not such from thee.

Yet more! the billows and the depths have more!
High hearts and brave are gathered to thy breast!
They hear not now the booming waters roar,
The battle-thunders will not break their rest,
—Keep thy red gold and gems, thou stormy grave!
Give back the true and brave!

Give back the lost and lovely!—those for whom
The place was kept at board and hearth so long,
The prayer went up through midnight's breathless gloom,
And the vain yearning woke 'midst festal song!
Hold fast thy buried isles, thy towers o'er-thrown—
But all is not thine own.

To thee the love of woman hath gone down,
Dark flow thy tides o'er manhood's noble head,
O'er youth's bright locks, and beauty's flowery crown,
—Yet must thou hear a voice—restore the dead!
Earth shall reclaim her precious things from thee!
—Restore the dead, *Oh stream*!

Following the Marine Enquiry on the loss of the *Ostrich*, as if to spite the verdict of the Court—no body to blame—another ferry steamer, with its load of human freight, has been gathered to the treasures of the Hooghly. The *Mongola*, owned by Messrs. Hoare Miller, on Monday evening last, sank off Metiaboorj, in mid stream, in collision with the steam-tug *Clive*. The ferry steamer was in charge of a Serang, Mirza Ali, who, finding the vessel in distress, after the manner of the commander of the *Ostrich*, attempted to escape but was traced out. The Police were better advised on this occasion, the head interesting himself in the matter. They immediately hurried to the scene of disaster and have been unremitting in their efforts to recover dead bodies and making enquiries as to the persons

saved and lost. The Serang has been placed before the Magistrate for negligent navigation and the Coroner will hold inquests on the dead bodies recovered and identified.

The missing passengers up to date have been ascertained to be:—Babus Nobin Chunder Doss; Ashutosh Mukerji; Mohendro Nath Ghosh; Nemye Chunder Chatterji; Monwarilall Bose, assistant to Dr. Mohendro Lal Sircar; Hurry Churn Chatterji, clerk, Municipal office, Calcutta; Jogendro Nath Banerji, ticket collector of the *Mongola*; Hurry Datta Pal, a cooper with Messrs. Cutler Palmer and Co.; a woman named Bhundie Dasse, maid servant of Babu Srinath Chowdry, of Andool, who had gold and silver ornaments on her person to the value of about Rs. 250; Babus Annoda Charan Acharjee; Bhuban Chunder Ghose, a zemindar of Sankrail; Giridhur Shaha, a wealthy wine merchant of Mashita, Bhootnath Dass, Bbona Mullick, Doyal Chunder Paramanick, a cooper with Messrs. Kellner and Co., Grish Chunder Dey; and Surruth Chunder Bose, a merchant of Bantra.

The following is a list of those who were saved:—Babu Surjoo Coomar Mukerji, a clerk in the employ of Messrs. Cutler Palmer and Co.; Babus Jogendronath Roy; Nogendro Nath Roy, both also with the above Company; Anath Nath Roy; Troylokhonath Sircar; Babu Dwarkanath Mukerji, a clerk of the Public Works Department; Babu Jogendro Nath Ghose, a clerk in the office of the E. I. Railway, Store Department; Babu Kissory Mohun Mukerji, a clerk of the Military Department; Babu Upendro Nath Gluttock, a Government clerk; and Babu Otool Chunder Mullick.

We are enabled to add four names to the official list of the lost—of four Mahomedan gentlemen of position belonging to Muthaboorj, namely, Hamidood Dowlah Bahadur, one of the prominent officers of the late King of Oudh, and his brother-in-law, Mirza Mahomed Hossein, Moulvie Syud Hossein Sabir—second son of the celebrated Mootjahid and scholar, Shumsul Olama Mufti Syud Mahomed Abbass—and Hakeem Akbar Hossein. The corpse of only the last named has been found and identified, the bodies of the others not having yet been recovered.

It is time, however, that these passenger-carrying vessels should be placed under control and supervision by Government under strict rules, and that Government should shake off its lethargy and lay down and enforce the rules. It is strange that since the losses of previous years, no means have yet been adopted to know the exact number of souls in a passenger steamer. If Government had done its duty, we could have known how many persons there were when the *Mongola* went down to the bottom of the river. The passengers were all natives, and the last year's enquiry has shewn that no help is to be got from our people. These carrying companies are a great convenience, and the country and the state ought to be grateful to them. But they are but human, and all necessary precautions should be taken to ensure the safety of the passengers, without checking the enterprise.

The Harbour Department tried to raise the *Mongola*, but she was too weak to stand the chain passed under her, and she was cut in two.

WE have at length received confirmatory news from the spot of the new arrangements for the administration of Gwalior already announced. We translate from our Correspondent's despatch.

On the afternoon of Monday the 5th instant, a Grand Durbar, composed of all the noblemen and leading gentlemen, was held at the Jai Indar Bhowan Palace at Gwalior, for the installation of Madarool Mahám Mookhtárood Dowlah Krishna Rao Bapoo Sahib Jadon Feroze Jung Bahadur, as President of the Council of Regency, in the place of the late Rajah Sir Gunput Rao Khurkey. The Resident, Colonel Bannerman, accompanied by Mrs. and the Misses Bannerman, arrived at the Palace, and was received at the steps, and led into the Durbar Hall, by Bapoo Sahib Jadon.

After His Highness the Minor Maharajah and the Resident had taken their respective seats, and the assembly had paid them their respects, the Resident rose and read out the *khurreetah* of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, which announced that His Lordship had been pleased to appoint His Highness the Junior Maharanee Sahibah Regent of the Gwalior State, during the minority of her son, His Highness the Maharajah, and to make her father, Bapoo Sahib Jadon, President of the Council of Regency. The latter then rose, and, in an appropriate little speech in Urdu, offered the grateful thanks of His Highness the Maharajah, of Her Highness the Maharanee Sahiba, and of himself, for the great and genuine interest evinced

by His Excellency the Viceroy and the Government of India, in the welfare and prosperity of the State.

Aitar and *pan* were now distributed and the Durbar came to an end. Salutes were fired in honor of the Resident, the Regent and the President.

THE arrangements made by the Viceroy for the administration of Gwalior have caused the greatest possible gratification throughout the Scindhia's Dominions, and are hailed with genuine satisfaction by all the subjects and well-wishers of the intervening and surrounding Native States. The name of Lord Dufferin—they have not yet mastered the new titles—is blessed as that of the protector of the Indian Rulers and cherisher of native rights and dignities.

ON the 7 instant, a Durbar was held at the Gwalior Palace, at which Nazars were presented to Her Highness the Regent Maharanee Sahibah, by all noblemen and gentlemen entitled to the privilege.

THE late Commander-in-Chief of Gwalior, General Sir Bapoo Saheb Avar, who was decorated with the insignia of a K. C. I. E. at the Chapter held in Calcutta, in the beginning of this year, having recently died, the post has been given to Appa Sahib Angrey, a distinguished nobleman of Gwalior and a member of the Council of Regency.

HAKEEM SYUD KAZIM ALI KHAN has been appointed Vakeel Durbar and Private Secretary to His Excellency Bapoo Sahib Jadon Bahadur, the newly appointed President of the Council of Regency at Gwalior. This gentleman is the nephew of the late Hakeem Syud Ihsan Ali Khan, who was for many years the trusted Vakeel Durbar of Gwalior in the time of the late Maharaja Jyaji Rao Scindhia, and has been educated in England.

WE habitually keep ourselves at a respectful distance from the wisdom of the *Indian Mirror* as from the eloquence of the *Bengalee*. But we occasionally come upon the precious outpourings second-hand, in the columns of our far off contemporaries to whom Ditch water doubtless comes sublimated by the well-known enchantment of distance. Thus we read in the *Advocate of India* a characteristic *Mirrorial* puff direct of Mr. A. O. Hume, the Father of the Native Congress. It is as follows :

"For the services to the Government during the Mutiny, Mr. Hume was made a C.B. He retired from the Civil Service after he had risen to be a Secretary to the Government of India. Had he continued in the service, he would without doubt have been Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. Provinces long ago. But he cared little for power and high office. His sympathies were not bureaucratic. The incentive of 'filthy lucre' was wanting in him, for he possessed a comfortable fortune of his own, and this he has been spending in divers ways for the good of the land of his adoption. A man in a million! And this is he whom the enemies of this country have reviled and libelled for the last five years. Anglo-Indians, official and non-official, in the press and out of it, have made it a business of slandering Mr. Hume, because he entertains certain convictions, and has the honesty and courage to act up to them. They abuse him, because he will not allow them to trample upon truth and justice, upon given pledges, upon the rights of the Indian people recognised even by the Crown."

The *Indian Mirror* has the best of all reasons to be grateful to Mr. Hume, who has been the making of it: while he is glad to find the only native daily a convenient organ and a ready tool. He is its constant and by far its best contributor, imparting to its columns whatever signs of cultivation they ever bear. A paragraph from Mr. Hume is worth all the open letters and secret leaders of the unfortunate Parsee, whose family, in their plenitude and fervour of their affection, have sent him out on his wearying round, his return apparently postponed *sine die* (vide letters to the *Mirror* purporting to be from his own mother and brother). The *Mirror* is dreary enough as it is, but without the help of the Humes it would have been a frowning block of Ditch water ice of a native company, or an impenetrable block of timber from a fossil forest. To his many obligations for a series of years conferred on the paper, Mr. Hume added in December last a signal one on the editor which the latter could not afford to ignore. At the National Congress at Madras, he was sent away crying, in consequence of his exclusion from the conclave of twelve formed for the government of the Congress, when Mr. Hume relented and wiped the patriot's tears by finding room for him.

Except as a contribution of gratitude for the past and the future, the passage quoted above is not creditable to a writer who, whatever may be his deficiencies, is old enough to remember the antecedents of the subject of his adulation.

There are almost as many misstatements in the *Mirror* as there are sentences.

It scarcely becomes a native journal to extol the Mutiny services of that North-West Magistracy which is mainly responsible for the popular sympathy with the mutineers and for the popular bitterness towards the White man, which rendered the Sepoy outbreak so dangerous. We shall some day see old Ricketts of Moradabad presented to our admiration, we suppose? The less said about the doings of the officers of Government, civil and military, stipendiary and honorary, in those days, the better for their reputation and the cause of loyalty to England. Had he remained in the service, Mr. Hume would have been Lieutenant-Governor, N. W. P., long ago? Possibly. In that case, the man had not the patience. Perhaps he knew better than his eulogist. The truth is that Mr. Hume retired in a pet, because he was not made a Member of Council, and had, of course, no hope of the higher prize. And this is "the man of heroic mould,"

• But clearest of ambitious *taint* :—

the official who did not care for power and high office! Why, his dogmatism and love of power are a source of infinite weakness to his dear child the "National Congress." His sympathies were not bureaucratic? Is not the evidence all the other way? During all the long period he was in service, did anybody hear of him as a liberal Indian politician, to say nothing of a gushing friend of the down-trodden natives starving for want of Representative Government? Did he not actually commit himself in black and white—nay, in print—against the people of India? He may now find it agreeable to soil his old nest, but so long as he was in the Covenanted Civil Service, he was undistinguishable from the rest of his brethren, except for a more than ordinary contempt for native claims.

It is all very well for poor Margaret to cry—

I now can see with better eyes

And worldly grandeur I despise.

But what is the value of late professions of self-illumination and self-denial without repentance? Even now, he refuses the light and poses, with visible satisfaction of the world-worldly, as the Gooloo Govind of the Indian National Congress.

'Twere beautiful to see

Once more a shepherd of mankind indeed,

Who loved his charge, but never loved to lead ;

One whose meek flock the people joyed to be !

But where is such a leader? Echo, alas! answers, *Where?*

BEFORE the Durga Pooja we were glad to learn that Mr. C. W. Bolton, the Magistrate-Collector of the District, an officer of unquestionable ability, himself went to Barrackpore to inquire into the defalcation case. Cannot any of our correspondents trace the result?

THE giant has been felled by the boy. Pandit Ajoodhya Nath, one of the most respectable up-country Congress men and the most eloquent Urdu orator of the cause, has, it is said, received a crushing reply from Master Surjoo Pershad, a puny politician, who has not yet received his *toga virilis*, being still in the *status pupillari* at Benares. The anti-Congressists do not care to hide their satisfaction at the rise of such a prodigy in their ranks, and have presented the boy with substantial tokens of their appreciation, *pour encourager les autres*, doubtless. Raja Siva Prasad, in his capacity of the custodian of the Maharaja of Benares's conscience, sent some money to the Principal of the College for Surjoo Pershad. Baboo Pramada Das Mitra the most intelligent and accomplished Reis of the Holy City, though a Baboo to the backbone for a' that—on his own hook, moral and pecuniary, sent another sum. Principal Muir, however, returned the donations. He recognised the benevolence of the donors' intention, but urged that the Government instructions against officials recognising any political movement whatsoever were stringent and admitted of no evasion.

The donors were far too earnest to resume their grants. In fact, Baboo Mitra, as a good Hindu, could not receive his back, and the titled Jain had not given his own. So the presents were sent direct to the lucky student.

THE *Evening News* commenced with many flourishes—a bad sign—but it acquired in no time such an unenviable notoriety that we gave it up. It lent itself to the dissemination of calumny, libelling men at the malice of others. It was thus that we, among others, were attacked. Not that we had given any offence or it had taken any. We had the best of reasons for sparing each other. No love could be lost where none existed. Nor was there room for hate, because no point of contact—no relation. Between the high caste organ of the pure Indians and the journal of Shabby Gentility and the Great Unwashed, there was, of course, no competition. Nevertheless, we were game, fair or foul did not matter, to the new game-keeper. We say game-keeper, for the sportsmen were other folks—outsiders. We were set up as the target for the practice of the braves and Badmashes—Parsee, Bengali and Frank—in the Burdwan Raj. We became, so to say, the bull's eye for the butt of Bun Behari's asses's horns, but that asses have no such anatomical promontories, except perhaps in their domestic relations. Thus, evening after evening, these creatures were led out to knock their poor pates hard against us. But we did not feel. Many were the low personalities indulged in at our expense by our new contemporary. We, however, stirred not. The *News* next found comfort in the fact, of which it duly informed its readers, that proceedings were about to be taken against us in the courts by its patron the puissant Lala. But the young journal could scarcely brook the delay of the Raj lawyers, and so it proceeded to dish us forthwith. Then appeared an absurd account, meant to be sensational, of a pack of Mahomedan urchins led by an apocryphal Moulvi to the banks of the Banka, the rivulet of Burdwan, to protest against the crimes of *Reis and Rayyet*, and burn its offending Editor in effigy. We never cared a straw what stupid use was made of the likeness of our noble person, so long as nobody was rash enough to approach the original with any hostile views. But some of our friends, without our knowledge, took the trouble to inquire, and learnt that there was not an atom of truth in the *News's* account: there had never been any talk of making a grievance of anything we wrote, by any portion or fraction of the public, and there was no such Mahomedan, whether Moulvi or not, as was said to have headed the burning demonstration. On the contrary, they found that, except among a few hangers-on of the party in the ascendant in the Raj, we were popular in Burdwan, and the people at large were grateful to *Reis and Rayyet* for undertaking the risks of telling the truth, in the interest of an ancient House. We could perceive, from the *News's* columns themselves, the convicted blackguard who had been supplying it with the little lies on the subject, some of whose absurd Burdwan fictions in the same paper we had exposed before. No reparation was ever made to us. Nothing more was said even of the prosecution against us, the prospect of which had been seized by such honourable organs as the *Indian Mirror* and the *Bengal Times*. No wonder, we ceased to look at the *News*.

IT was, therefore, with agreeable surprise that, chancing, after the late holidays, to glance at the paper, we found a remarkable change. The *Evening News* was no longer the flimsy filthy rag. The promises made at starting were at length being, so far as possible, made good. Formerly, to a great extent, the *Evening News* was an evening *réchauffé* of the morning papers' overnight telegrams, while the editorial department was so weak that it was questionable whether there was any responsible editor. Now it was matterful, and specially good in non-official news of all kinds. What was more to the purpose, it had ceased to be the disreputable thing it was. Having once thought differently of a new brother, we think this acknowledgment, awkward as in the prolixity of the introductory explanation it may look, is due. We now read the *News* with pleasure, and may quote it without reproach.

No sooner said than done! Here is a smart paragraph which would be admired in any part of the world—Bœotia of course always excepted:

"It is said that the medical profession in Poona are racking their brains to discover the cause of a new fever that has made its appearance in that place. It is a malady of a peculiar type and confines itself solely to the Brahmin community. The symptoms are a depression of spirits in a financial form, loss of understanding, bewilderment of reason, incapacity to answer questions at a cross-examination, an in-

clination to make rambling statements especially when in a witness box, a partiality to rob heartshorn (Robertson) &c., &c. After a lengthy exchange of technical ideas on the subject, the faculty have arrived at the conclusion that the fever be termed the "Inverarity fever!" The remedy suggested as a cure seems as simple as it would be efficacious. It is, perfect rest by retirement from official life, with wholesome exercise in the way of hard-labour for a period in accordance with the severity of the malady."

The medical profession in Poona are scarcely worth their salt, if they are so much at sea in regard to the pathology of this famous disease. Roundly speaking, it is a moral dissipation—a sliding on a lower plane of conduct—brought on by evil communications and undue temptations, and resulting in certain overt acts which, by repetition, become habit. Usually, its earliest symptom is an unaccountable intolerable itching of the hands and fingers, which is temporarily relieved by handling money in gold and silver coin and small notes of Government Currency and putting it in the pockets. Our contemporary misses the true etiology by calling it the "Inverarity Fever." It would be more to the point to name it the Labouchere Fever of the *Huq non Huq* œdema. The Mahrattah Brahmins of the Western Presidency are the veriest fry who may be allowed to suffer in silence. It is the white Brahman whales of the farther West who are the most important patients. They have converted the India Office into a great Hospital. Our contemporary would do the British Empire enormous good, if it could make the Gorsts and Stracheys and others accept his simple cure.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1888.

THE DRINK FLOOD :

OR, THE OUTSTILL SYSTEM OF EXCISE.

THE outstill controversy has entered on another phase. Mr. Westmacott's investigation of the subject has laid bare many of those very defects which from the first were observed by the unofficial public, and brought to the notice of Government, of course in vain. His enquiry was, indeed, confined to the districts of Hooghly and Howrah, and if it has disclosed grave departure from the rules laid down by the Excise Commission, if it has established the existence of irregularities in the administration of the outstill system in a metropolitan area well under the shadow of the Board of Revenue, how much more serious must be the mischief it is working in the country at large, may well be imagined. That there has been a serious lowering of the price of liquor, and that no restriction has been placed on the distiller's natural desire to extend his manufacture and his sale of the cheapened liquor, have been completely established by the enquiry. Mr. Westmacott's report is about as complete a vindication of the unofficial public complaint, as it could well be, and Sir Stuart Bayley's Resolution on the subject is perhaps the first official document in which the working of the outstill system has been examined in a fair impartial spirit. In saying this, we, of course, except the Excise Commission's Report. The Excise Commission was too well alive to the weak points of the system, and if it nevertheless recommended its maintenance in sparsely peopled tracts, and even its extension into urban areas, it did so under the belief that the restrictions and safeguards which they proposed would go far to nullify its evils. The subjoined extract from the Resolution will bear out this view :—

"Notwithstanding that the recommendations of the Excise Commission in regard to the capacity of stills and fermenting vats have been nominally introduced, it has been found that the effect of these measures has been practically neutralized, and the consumption of intoxicating drink increased by the selection of inappropriate sites for shops by an unduly low rate of duty being fixed on the estimated consumption in calculating the upset price of the stills, and by the capacity of stills and vats originally fixed being afterwards increased in proportion to the

fees the abkars were willing to pay for their licenses,' thus giving rise to an undue cheapening of liquor and offering improper facilities for its sale in the interior and its introduction surreptitiously into the urban and suburban areas under the fixed duty systems. It is not too much to say that the safeguards which the Excise Commission considered absolutely essential to justify the continued existence of the outstill system have in this tract been so little kept in view that the system became scarcely distinguishable from that which in paragraph 102 received the severe condemnation of the Commission as being likely to foster the very evils which Mr. Westmacott's report has brought to light. On this point the Commission say in comparing the sudder distillery with the outstill system :—

'There is no difference in principle between the two systems, provided care be taken to limit the producing capacity of the outstills, and to make the revenue paid on each proportionate to its capacity. On the other hand, there is a radical difference between any system under which stills are taxed according to their producing power, or a duty is levied on the amount produced, and any system under which the distiller obtains the privilege of making as much spirit as he can on payment of a sum fixed without reference either to the amount actually produced by him or his means of production. The Commission have no hesitation in condemning the latter for all times and places, whether it takes the form of outstills without limit of producing power, or farms, or any similar arrangements.'

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts generally the views contained in the whole of this paragraph, and whatever may be his decision ultimately as to the possibility, under proper safeguards, of so working the outstill system as to free it from the reproach of artificially stimulating the sale of an unnecessarily cheap liquor, he is confident that in this instance those safeguards have not been carefully applied, and the reproach above indicated has been incurred because the system, to which alone the Commission gave its approval has not been properly, and with all its necessary restrictions, introduced. Its introduction at all into this tract was an exception to the general policy adopted, and it was therefore especially desirable that there should be no relaxation in the safeguards which were recommended. It is probable that in other parts of Bengal the errors brought to light by Mr. Westmacott may equally obtain; and without attempting to decide, without further experience, whether the outstill system, as safeguarded by the recommendations of the Commission, can ultimately be maintained, the practical matter for immediate consideration is the reform of errors in the administration of the system actually in force over the greater part of Bengal."

The Excise Commission, at any rate, was free thus from the settled bias in favor of the system so characteristic of the normal official mind—itself the monster offspring of bureaucratic discipline and *esprit de corps*. The officials, taking their cue from the Revenue Board, held the outstill system as *the* thing after all—a grand discovery, in fact, in Excise Administration, the merits of which were beyond all dispute. Its chief recommendation in official eyes was its alleged efficacy as a self-acting preventive of illicit distillation and of smuggling. That in providing a check on these evils, it produced the far greater evil of stimulating the manufacture and greater consumption of liquor, was, with some reluctance, admitted, but the utmost resources of official sophistry were employed in making light of this grave objection. It was pretended, in the face of patent facts, that the liquor turned out from an outstill was of a weak quality, and that this sufficiently neutralised the effects of increased production and of the cheapening of the price. The increase of production was alleged to be the natural effect of increased prosperity in the country, and, indeed, a circumstance to be regarded with satisfaction, rather than an evil to be contended against. Even the cheapening of liquor due to the stimulated traffic in outstill produce, was boldly denied. In the earlier days of the question, officials of the position of Divisional Commissioners were, indeed, found to go so far as to seriously propound the doctrine that after all it was to the benefit of the rural population that they were gradually taking to the use of the liquor. It was, we believe, the redoubtable Mr. Beames who, in an official paper, insisted on the tonic virtues of a glass of country grog with which to wash down a sodden mass of country rice. Statistics of the excise revenue in England and of the consumption of liquor per head of population, were quoted to show that, in comparison, there was no consumption of liquor to speak of in this country. The absolute fallacy of any com-

parison between the two countries was, of course, kept out of sight. The attitude held by the official class, as a rule, towards this question, has hitherto been cynical to a degree. No small credit is due, therefore, to Mr. Westmacott for breaking from the traditions of the body. He is justly entitled to the compliment which the Bengal Government has conveyed to him, "for the thoroughness and impartiality of his enquiry." The conclusions arrived at by him are a triumphant vindication of the popular outcry against the system, and Sir Stuart Bayley appears also to be in a more independent frame of mind in regard to the points under discussion. A great deal of official prejudice, not to say interests, is, however, arrayed in favor of the maintenance of existing arrangements, and it would be a surprise to look for a satisfactory settlement of the question, even under the most favorable circumstances. It is something, however, that some of the objectionable features in the practical administration of the system have been expressly condemned in the Resolution before us, and that Mr. Westmacott will be placed on special duty in connection with the approaching excise settlements.

A NEW JOURNALIST AND HIS NUTRITIOUS HODGEPODGE.

THE *Indian Daily News* rejoices in a Mussuric Correspondent who is an original, and knows it. Certainly, he knows he is somebody. Whatever others may think of him, he is satisfied with his own estimate of himself. He is not without his secret canker, because he still cherishes aspirations. Just now, his ambition seems to be to cicerone the Viceroy on his journey down country. But for his distracting literary method, his hints might have a better chance. Indeed, but for this, he would be an acquisition to any journal. As it is, it is a positive nuisance to wade through his long columns of chaff to pick up the grains of information and wisdom. He is we cannot say the Prince of digressers, seeing that the title has been applied to great writers like Macaulay and Montaigne, but he is certainly the most exasperating of writers for digression. He is always tantalising, always leaving his readers in the lurch. It is a great pity. For, he is an Old Indian who has lived in various parts of India and Burma, and, having enquired and read and thought a good deal, has acquired a fund of valuable information and ideas.

He does not care to write about Mussuric, but devotes himself to things in general and that in the most general, perfunctory way. His letters are an *olla podrida* of literature, politics, sociology, history, antiquities, botany, zoology, geology. He

Is everything by fits and nothing long.

Last not least, he is not always intelligible. He deals in innuendoes and obscurities—references to local magnates, ephemeral transactions and unfamiliar persons. In his last, he opens with

"The Harp that once in Tara's Halls"

and proceeds, by way of the *Pioneer* and Shakespeare and Lord Reay and his Dutch friend and the *Indian Mirror* and Koot Hoomie, to the Viceroy and Dacca, thence back to the Delhi country and Aliguh and, by many a devious path by way of the Kootub and Borneo and Java, emerges on "tomfool (*tamasha*) shows" (this last is a double quotation, being his and from him) and reaches the climax of the Method and the end of his first paragraph in this prodigious period, which we the more readily reproduce entire, because we are hardly able to parse it and certainly do not catch its meaning, to wit :—

"But thus the 'world' goes on, the prince of it over it 'the prince of the power, of the air,' whose existence even is doubted by wisacres! and the Eternal World of Truth and Light and Love, God's World, separate from it, and over it, and in, and through it!"

The next paragraph deals with an equal variety of topics from Local Option and the Congress and the Police and the Viceroy and Sir Charles Elliott and Mr. Scoble and the Railway Bill and

Famines and what not, not unwisely to be sure, but in defiance of all method and at express hurry and bustling confusion. He has an unfortunate incapacity to stick to a point or dwell on any subject. One would suppose that at last when he came to speak of the affairs of his own Mussuric, he would find himself at home and remain in it for a season. Alas! he no sooner mentions the transfer of Dr. Anderson of that station to Mainpuric than he rushes off at a tangent to Burma and descants on the best mode of officering the Police there!

Many useful remarks are interspersed in the letters and many curious glimpses of the present and the past are afforded by them. Thus, in the one under notice, he deprecates Lord Lansdowne's intention to choose a Private Secretary in India. Here is an anecdote in support. A friend of the writer

"has often had occasion to correspond privately with the supreme official Head of the State, and has, indeed, done so during many successive Viceroyalties, but that only lately, since a Mr. Hewett, of some Indian service, has been acting for Sir Donald Wallace, my informant has not even had the bare acknowledgment of several letters and enclosures—some of great value to the senders—to the Viceroy! Probably this Mr. Hewett has been taking it on himself to act as the Viceroy in these cases, little thinking his master might like to have been consulted."

The portion of the letter which is most interesting at this moment relates to the Viceroy's visit to Dacca. The writer does not like the idea of the long steamer journey from Sahibgunj and the necessary stay on board. He is anxious that the vessel might possibly stick in the shifting sands. But his fear is not of the vessel sinking but the larder failing. There's carnivorous John Bull beyond mistake! And then not only will the great Lord Saheb be condemned to an anachronic Lent and living on the fish of the Pudda, but—horrible to contemplate!—all the subsequent dates of the programme will get deranged! There, too, is the British worshipper of Time the great Fetish! Over and above these, is another mysterious danger—another undefined liability too dreadful to speak of.

"Then his being so many days on board in the river has a very serious objection which I shall not mention."

We hope our contemporary's correspondent has in kindness telegraphed a confidential warning to the Private Secretary, or if the Indian Mr. Hewett is not to be trusted, to the Khas Briton Lord Beresford. Perhaps, such a communication will be rewarded with an invitation to the telegrapher to come and undertake the office of guide, philosopher and friend of the Viceroy through the shoals and whirlpools and the pirates of the Ganges and Megna. We better give the rest of the passage as a specimen of the writer's lawless literary procedure:

"There is no one now living who knows Dacca—and for that matter many other parts of India, including even Moulmein and its famous roses, about which your Burnah correspondent lately made mention, for it was I who at my own expense sent all the choicest varieties there against the late lamented Earl Mayo's visit—more than I do. At least *three* ancient capitals of Bengal, going up to the very earliest Hindoo period, lie about there not far from each other. Dacca itself—not the modern city, the creation of Mr. Commissioner Buckland and Sir Abdul Gham—can go back first to several hundred years well into the Moslem period, and then also 2,000 years back into the early Hindoo and Roman period; but the site and remains of this last are known alone to me; not even Chittagong Lyall, who was before at Dacca, nor Larmie the Able, know anything about them. Nor about the trend of the ancient Bay of Bengal about those parts, nor the volcanic country, nor the broken pieces of water whence I have seen fire-balls issue, nor the saurian monsters of gigantic size and unfamiliar shape and mien—such as we read of only in works on palæontology, and who led very much warmer lives, and who, by the way, are also reported as having been seen in the volcanic lake parts of New Zealand, with eyes as big as saucers and bodies as big as bullocks, crawl out of, and take a quiet noon-day walk on this unfamiliar and changed earth. There is, too, the site of an ancient bloody field of battle of the earliest ages; and even the very kind of pearl of a *pink* variety that used to be exported for the dames of the Roman Court of Cæsar. And a hundred other equally interesting things; but all have given way to jute! And it is only this that Lord Dufferin will see."

He then threatens—

"Shall I now proceed to describe with equal minutiae of detail the antiquities of Kangra, or Delhi (and reveal the true origin and theory of the 'Kootub,' which has not yet been even suspected?), or Borneo, or Java? But I won't, lest the Dutch friend I have referred to before get some new (journalistic) 'fits,' and create a scare, if not a 'scene.'"

A good resolution, by all means!

We must not be supposed to undervalue the writer. He is a

shrewd outspoken critic with vast stores of information and a capacity for speculation. He is a sound politician into the bargain, as when he speaks of Lord Dufferin as

"as great and good a Viceroy as India has had—rather too good, free, open, and kind, for the *cult of the country*."

The italics are his. That is the bare truth, but the present Administration has been so unlucky and so misrepresented and misunderstood, that it argues no ordinary calibre to recognise, and some courage to avow, it. With a little care, he would be a most valuable acquisition to our journalism.

State Paper.

No. 16, dated Calcutta the 5th January, 1888.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Prideaux, Agent to the Governor General in Council for the Affairs of the late King of Oudh.
To—W. J. Cunningham Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

[Concluded from p. 502.]

32. The late Prince Faridoon Kadr left three other *motai* wives, named Faridoon Mahal, Sowhi Begam and Mehdi Begam, to whom the King refused to grant an allowance because they were childless. These ladies have petitioned me representing that they are entirely without means of support, and earnestly entreating that His Excellency in Council may be pleased to grant them a small allowance in order to save them from destitution. As they enjoy no rights of inheritance under the Shia Mahomedan law, I would venture to support their application for a small provision at the hands of Government, and would recommend that they be each granted a pension of Rs. (40) forty per mensem for the remainder of their lives.

33. In addition to those dealt with in the preceding paragraphs of this letter, the late King left some great grandchildren who are without means of support and who merit to some extent the compassionate consideration of Government. The late Kara Muhammad Mirza Bahadoor, known as the Burray Mirza, eldest son of the late Wali Ahd, Prince Hamid Ali Bahadoor, died on the 1st of July last leaving one *nikab* and three *motai* wives, four sons, and four daughters. I think a limit should be placed on the allowances receivable by *motai* wives and I do not propose that the widows of this grandson of the King should each be pensioned by Government with the exception of the senior, or *nikab* one, but as the senior descendants of His Majesty in a direct line, I venture to think that a small provision should be made for the children. I would therefore recommend that the pensions of Rs. 300 per mensem which, under the terms of paragraph 24 of this letter, I should have recommended for the late Kara Muhammad Mirza had he survived, may be divided amongst his children in the proportion of two-thirds for the sons and one-third for the daughters. On this scale, each of the sons will draw a pension of Rs. (50) fifty per mensem, and each of the daughters Rs. (25) twenty five per mensem, which should form an adequate pension for their maintenance and education until such time as they may be able to supplement it by their own exertions. I would also propose that a pension of Rs. (40) forty per mensem be granted to Alam Bahoo Sahiba, the *nikab* wife, and mother of three of the children.

34. As the *motai* wives of His late Majesty stand on a different footing from the legitimate wives and descendants of the late King, I propose to deal with their claims to a provision for the future in a separate letter.

35. I may conclude by stating that, in submitting these proposals, I have not lost sight of the fact that, after all claims against the late King's estate have been satisfied and the expenses of the administration liquidated, there may remain a considerable balance which in pursuance of the views of Government should be distributed among heirs according to the rules of Shia Muhammadan law. At the present stage of affairs, however, it is impossible to estimate the amount of the claims which Government may consider to be justly due against the King's estate or the expenses attendant on the administration, or the sum which the landed property may eventually realize. In the absence of these data, I venture to think it would be advisable to settle the pension question at as early a date as possible, both in order that the family may be relieved from anxiety regarding their future position, and to protect them from the intrigues of which they are the victims at the hands of unscrupulous persons, who have led them to believe that they have influence with Government. I would respectfully venture to hope that the proposals I have had the honor to submit will not be considered in excess of what is necessary to support the credit and respectability of a historic family without reference to the prospective advantages which they may possibly reap from the realization of the King's property. On this latter part of the question it is my intention to address Government at greater length at a future date.

36. I annex a statement (Appendix A) showing in detail the maximum allowances drawn under the existing scheme and the

maximum pensions which will be drawn by the *nikah* wives and descendants of His Majesty if my proposals receive the sanction of Government. The total amount of the latter is Rs. 23,020, exhibiting an increase over the present maximum rate of allowances of Rs. 11,430 per mensem.

APPENDIX A.

Statement showing the existing maximum rate of allowances drawn by the "nikah" wives and descendants of His late Majesty the King of Oudh and the maximum rate of pensions and house rent proposed to be granted for the remainder of their lives.

No.	Names.	Present	Proposed scale				GRANDSONS.				
		scale (maximum.)	(maximum.)								
NIKAH WIVES.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.						
1	Mokhera Ozma Nawab Badshah Mahal Sahiba ...	600	600	...	600	1	Kara Shapper Mirza Bahadur ...	170	300	...	300
2	Hoozoor Alia Malikat Oudh Akhtar Mahal Nawab Rownak Ara Begam Sahiba ...	500	500	100	600	2	Mirza Kurrat-ul-Ain Bahadur ...	170	300	...	300
		1,100			1,200	3	Mirza Muhammad Mokim Bahadur	170	...	...	...
						4	Akhtar Mirza Bahadur	170	...	...	...
						5	Maimanat Mirza Ghulam Abid Bahadur ...	170	300	...	300
						6	Mirza Muhammad Said Bahadur...	170	...	...	...
						7	Mirza Muhammad Said Ali Bhdr.	170	...	...	...
						8	Mirza Faridoon Jah Bahadoor ...	170	300	...	300
						9	Mirza Humayan Kadr Bahadur ...	170	300	...	300
								1,530			1,500
SONS.						GRANDDAUGHTERS.					
1	Kamr Kadr Mirza Abid Ali Bhdr.	300	2,500	100	2,600	1	Dilbund Begam Sahiba ...	70	...	...	90
2	Mirza Asman Jah Bahadur ...	150	1,000	100	1,100	2	Hajirah Begam Sahiba ...	70	...	...	...
3	Kara Ahmad Mirza Jam Jah Ali Bahadur ...	450	700	100	800	3	Mahsimah Begam Sahiba	70	...	...	...
4	Mirza Muhammad Jogee Bahadur	250	500	100	600	4	Lukht Jigar Kaniz Bakur Begam Sahiba ...	70	...	...	...
5	Mirza Muhammad Jalal Bahadur	250	500	100	600	5	Moostofa Begam Sahiba	70	...	...	...
6	Mirza Muhammad Babar Bahadur	250	500	100	600	6	Moorteeza Begam Sahiba	70	...	...	...
7	Bulund Jah Mirza Muhammad Askari Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	7	Sarir Jegar Begam Sahiba	70	...	...	...
8	Awali Murtabat Mirza Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Bahadur	250	500	100	600	8	Kishwar Ara Begam...	70	...	...	90
9	Taj-ul-Molook Mirza Kazim Hussain Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600			490			180
10	Hasan Mirza Kam Bukhsh Bhdr.	250	500	100	600	DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW.					
11	Muhammad Ali Mirza Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	1	Nawab Shahryar Bahoo Sahiba ...	200	200	...	200
12	Masood Ali Mirza Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	2	Nawab Begam alias Keykob Mahal Sahiba ...	200	200	...	200
13	Sultan Mirza Muhammad Reza Ali Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	3	Mehr Jchan Begam Sahiba	50	100	...	100
14	Sardar Mirza Ali Hussain Bahadur	250	500	100	600	4	Shah Bahoo Nawab Amir Begam Sahiba ...	100	...	...	...
15	Furrookh Mirza Aboo Torab Bhdr.	250	500	100	600	5	Akram Bahoo Nawab Zeman Ara Begam Sahiba ...	100	...	...	...
16	Humayun Jah Mirza Muhammad Asghar Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	6	Hoozoor Mahal Sahiba	30	100	...	100
17	Dilwar Jah Mirza Muhammad Naki Ali Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	7	Faridoon Mahal	...	40	...	40
18	Khurshed Mirza Muhammad Kazim Hussain Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	8	Sowlic Begam	...	40	...	40
19	Kamyab Mirza Muhammad Hussain Bukur Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	9	Mehdi Begam	...	40	...	40
20	Darajah Mirza Abul Ali Bahadur	250	500	100	600			680			720
21	Akhtar Jah Mirza Muhammad Hussain Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	NEPHEW AND SON-IN-LAW.					
22	Afsar-ul-Molook Mirza Muhammad Akram Hussain Bahadur ...	250	500	100	600	1	Jedan Kadr Mirza Muhammad Wahid Ali Bahadur ...	90	...	...	...
23	Khadim-ul-Aimma Mirza Muhammad Ijaz Hussain Bahadur ...	90	90	...	90			90			
24	Kesra Bukht Mirza Muhammad Abbas Hussain Bahadur ...	90	90	...	90	GREAT GRAND CHILDREN.					
		5,830			16,080	1	Yusuf Mirza, son of the late Burray Mirza	...	50	...	50
						2	Asfar Mirza, son of the late Burray Mirza	...	50	...	50
						3	Kura Muhammad Khakan Mirza, son of the late Burray Mirza	...	50	...	50
						4	Ali Bahadur Mirza, son of the late Burray Mirza	...	50	...	50
						5	Jehan Ara Begam, daughter of the late Burray Mirza...	...	25	...	25
						6	Khusrau Begam, daughter of the late Burray Mirza	...	25	...	25
						7	Jehandar Begam, daughter of the late Burray Mirza...	...	25	...	25
						8	Keysar Begam, daughter of the late Burray Mirza	...	25	...	25
								...			300
						GRAND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.					
						1	Alam Bahoo Sahiba ...	...	40	...	40
								...			40
								11,590	aggregate total.		23,020

EMERALD THEATRE**BEADON STREET.***Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.**Saturday—the 10th November, 1888—
at 9 P. M.*The great Dramatist, Babu Grish Chunder
Ghose's successful Tragedy,**BISHAD.**A Happy Combination of Humour and Pathos.
Designed to delight the eye and enchant
the ear.The Central figure BISHAD, a noble, all-
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through the hearts of the sympathising thou-
sands, and rivet them in their seats, heedless
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2, Ukkur Dutt's Lane, Bowbazar, Calcutta.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.Tenders are hereby invited for the supply
of earth for the purpose of Tank filling, and
will be received by the Vice-Chairman up to
2 P. M. of Saturday, the 10th of November
next. The rate to be per 1,000 cft. including
cart hire to any part of each of the Municipal
Wards 1 to 18.The Commissioners do not bind themselves
to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.Notice is hereby given that the office for
Registration of Births and Deaths for Ward
No. 7 Burra Bazar Section G. Town has this
day been removed from No. 164 Lower Chit-
pore Road to No. 5 Mangoe Lane Ward 12
Section 'L' Waterloo Street.

JOHN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

1st November 1888.

No more Operations!**KAMINI MONI DAVI'S**

SPECIFIC FOR PILES AND FISTULA-IN-ANO.

PATENT! PATENT! PATENT!

Published in *India Gazette* of 6th September,
1884, page 320. The Hon'ble Sir Augustus
Rivers Thompson, the late Lieutenant-Governor,
favored the Patentee with instructions to Dr.
B. Simpson, the then Surgeon-General, Bengal,
to have the merits of her specific tried in the
Campbell Hospital under the care of Dr. Coul
Mackenzie, the Superintendent; and the Spe-
cific, which is derived from the vegetable king-
dom, effected wonderful cures without any in-
terference of surgical operations.Price, quart bottle of mixture, including
powder, Rs. 4. Pint Rs. 2. Packing charges
annas four.For further particulars and directions on
special points, apply to

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Amount already advertised	... 60,647
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W. J. Simmons, Esq., 20
Total 60,867

Calcutta, 22nd Oct. 1888.

**Rivers Steam Navigation Co.
"Limited."****ASSAM LINE.**The Company maintains a regular weekly
Steamer Service between Calcutta and Deb-
rooghur *via* Goalundo.The next Steamer to be despatched from
Calcutta is the Steamer.....on
Friday the 9th inst. All cargo for shipment
by this steamer should be sent to the Com-
pany's Godowns at Jaggannath Ghat not later
than Thursday the 8th idem.The Steamer "BURMAH" will leave Goa-
lundo for Debrooghur on Sunday, the 11th
idem.**DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.***Through Booking to and from Assam.*The Despatch Steamers of this Service
leave Dhubri daily on the arrival of the Mails
from Calcutta, and proceed to Debrooghur,
stopping at all intermediate stations and
Mookhs.Passengers, Goods, Parcels (packages not
to exceed one ton in weight or 8 feet by
4 feet in measurement) may be booked
through to and from Calcutta, and all stations
on the Eastern Bengal State Railway and
connected Railways, and the following
Steamer Stations of this Company, *viz.*,
Dhubri, Goalparah, Gauhati, Mungledye,
Tezpor, Silghaut for Koliabar, Dhunsin
Mookh, Nigriting, Koakeela Mookh, Desang
Mookh and Debrooghur.Packages booked as parcels will be forward-
ed by rail along with the Mails. Freight on
perishable articles must be prepaid.**GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH
SERVICE.**Special fast single-handed Steamers, which
have been specially built for the Assam Trade,
carrying passengers and coolies between
Goalundo and Debrooghur, will leave Goalundo
bi-weekly on Sundays and Thursdays, calling
at all intermediate stations, and Debrooghur
on Tuesdays and Saturdays.Through bills of lading will be granted for
goods and parcels on presentation of rail re-
ceipt or payment of freight. Packages not to
exceed ten hundred weight, or 8 feet by 4 feet
in measurement.All particulars as to rates of freight and
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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

ation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full merited of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to quirk, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author's compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, add took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two" years. He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood.*" The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1888.

} No. 348

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

TO A STEP-CHILD.

THOU art not mine ; the golden locks that cluster
Round thy broad brow—
Thy blue eyes, with their soft and liquid lustre,
Thy cheek of snow—
E'en the strange sadness on thy infant features,
Blending with love,
Are hers, whose mournful eyes seem sadly bending
On her lost love.

Thou art not mine ; upon thy sweet lip lingers
Thy mother's smile,
And while I press thy soft and baby fingers
To mine the while—
In thy deep eyes, so trustfully upraising
Their light to mine,
I deem the spirit of thy mother gazing
To my soul's shrine.

They ask me, with their meek and soft beseeching,
A mother's care ;
They ask a mother's kind and patient teaching,—
A mother's prayer.
Not mine—yet dear to me—fair, fragrant blossom
Of a fair tree,
Crushed to the earth in life's first glorious summer,
Thou art dear to me,
Child of the lost, the buried, and the sainted,
I call thee mine,
Till, fairer still, with tears and sin untainted,
Her home be thine

TIME THE RESTORER.

THOU wingest thy flight o'er the realms of earth,
And its silent places are filled with mirth ;
Thou stretchest thy hand o'er the desert place,
And the palace rises in marble grace ;
The depths of ocean are touched by thee,
And green isles swell from the surging sea.

O'er the barren mountains thy foot has strayed,
And their heights are veiled with the forest shade.
Thou passest on, and the tiger's den
Is changed to the dwellings of cheerful men ;
The heathen wilds by thy steps are trod,
And the Christian temple springs up to God.

The bones of millions in dust are strewed,
But the nation's strength is by thee renewed ;
Genius and learning expire, but thou
Kindlest their fire on some younger brow :
Man must perish, but thou hast shrined
In thine awful temple his living mind.

Yet, O restorer of perished things,
Who scatterest life with thy ceaseless wings,
Who goest forth, and upon thy track
Youth and beauty and bloom come back,—
Powerful as o'er earth's realms thou art,
Thou canst not quicken the perished heart.

Thou canst not waken its wasted fires,
Its virtuous aim, and high desires ;
Thou canst not call back the radiant train
Of hope and love to their bowers again ;
Life to the lost one thou canst not give,
Nor say to the spirit of memory, live.

Yet there is a power strong to save,
There is an arm that unlocks the grave,
There is a spring in the realms of light
That restores the lovely, the young, the bright ;
Where the holy love of God is crowned,
Where the dead revives, and the lost is found !

L. G. P.

TOO EARLY LOST :

OR, THE MUTE INGLOURIOUS BARD.

Life has voiceless geniuses. They think deeply, they feel most fervently, but they have no words to give back those divine images which their eye and ear daily drink in. Yet we know that an angel will hereafter loosen their tongues."—*Frederika Bremer.*

I stood beside a poet's grave,
Fresh flowers bedecked the ground,
And the soft summer twilight cast
A holy spell around ;
With tears of sorrow in mine eyes,
I knelt upon the sod,
That such a soul had passed from earth,
And now was hid with God.

Oh ! his the poet's heart and soul,
Oh ! his the poet's eye !
Though from his lips had never burst
The songs of melody.
As in the sea-shell's folds the tones
Of unheard music lie,
His heart within itself contained
Those strains that never die !

For deep within his earnest soul,
High, holy thoughts had birth,
And glorious visions girt with light,
Undimmed by shades of earth ;
And though his spirit found no words
That glory to impart—
Like a mute lyre in sunshine laid,
Oh ! his the poet's heart !

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

I wept that such a soul had passed
Unheard, unfelt, away ;
That o'er his memory fame had cast
Not one immortal ray.
Oh ! early thus—oh ! silent thus—
That he in dust was laid,
With no unfading laurel wreath
Entwined around his head.

I wept not for the captive soul,
With heavenly freedom crowned—
I wept not for the glowing thoughts
In heavenly life unbound ;
The strains of burning eloquence
I knew were breathing there—
The tones of thrilling harmony
Resounding through the air.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE full title of the new Viceroy is—The Most Honourable Henry-Charles-Keith Petty-FitzMaurice, Marquess of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G., Earl Wycombe, of Chipping Wycombe, County Bucks, Viscount Caln and Calnstone, County Wilts, and Lord Wycombe, Baron of Chipping Wycombe, County Bucks in the Peerage of Great Britain ; Earl of Kerry and Earl of Shelburne, Viscount Clanmaurice and Fitzmaurice, Baron of Kerry, Lixnaw, and Dunkerron, in the Peerage of Ireland. He is expected at Aden on or about the 27th instant and at Bombay on or about the 3rd December.

Orders for his reception have been already issued.

The Resident at Aden has orders first to receive the Marquess as Viceroy of India.

An Aide-de-Camp of the Viceroy has it in command to proceed up to Bombay to attend upon the Marquess throughout his journey to Calcutta. Of course, the Governor of Bombay will welcome him in due form and with proper distinctions.

One of the principal Civil Officers of each Government or Administration will be deputed to meet the Marquess of Lansdowne as he enters the limits of such Government or Administration, and will remain in attendance upon His Lordship until he passes beyond those limits.

At the Railway stations at which halts are made for rest and refreshment, Civil and Military Officers will be in attendance. There will also be a Guard of Honour upon the platform.

Should the Marquess of Lansdowne make any stay at Allahabad, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces will make all arrangements, in communication with the Military authorities, for His Lordship's reception in a suitable manner.

At the Howrah terminus, the Secretaries to the Government of India and the Military Secretary and Aides-de-Camp to the Viceroy will await his Lordship's arrival, and at the platform the Commissioner of Burdwan, one of the Secretaries to the Government of Bengal, the Brigadier-General Commanding the Presidency District with the District Staff, the Commissioner of Police and Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, the Sheriff of Calcutta, and the Magistrate of Howrah, will be in attendance.

A Guard of Honour of Native Infantry will be drawn up at the Howrah terminus. The route to the Government House will be lined throughout by troops. At the Government House, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal will receive the Marquess of Lansdowne at the foot of the grand staircase and the Viceroy at the top.

IN Dacca, they are preparing to receive the Viceroy in proper style. They held a public meeting on the 2nd instant and formed a Committee. The Committee met on the 5th and 7th, and passed resolutions inviting public subscriptions to meet the expenses of the reception and for a permanent memorial, and requesting the residents to decorate and illuminate their respective houses. The District Magistrate Mr. L. Hare has been elected Chairman of the Committee. He informed the meeting before his election that "he would prefer not to be on the Committee personally. He was anxious to render them every assistance in carrying out their views as to the reception of the Viceroy, but was of opinion that his presence in the Committee might have the appearance of official interference in a movement

which was wholly spontaneous. He, however, left himself in their hands." But the Committee knew better. We make the above quotation to express our satisfaction with Mr. Hare for his policy of non-interference and avoidance of appearance of interference in popular movements. We hope other Magistrates will make that their rule of action. If it were generally acted upon, the cry for the separation of the Executive from the Judicial would lose much of its force.

THE Nawab of Bhawalpur has rescinded the order prohibiting the export of edible grain and seeds from his territory.

THE Russian explorer Colonel Prejevalsky is reported to be dead. The news requires confirmation.

FOR their attempt at theft on board the *S. S. Assyria* on a voyage to the Gulf, the Karachi Magistrate has sentenced 10 and 13 coolies to two months' rigorous imprisonment each.

THE High Court resumed work yesterday. The buildings have undergone some renovation during the holidays.

THE Sixth Criminal Sessions begins on Wednesday the 5th December. Mr. Justice Norris is expected to preside. The calendar will be a heavy one. Among others, Suddhabodhe will stand his trial for the death of his infant wife Kristomanini.

THE Government, on the advice of the Legal Remembrancer, have appealed to the Sadar Court from the Sessions Judge of Shikarpur acquitting Mr. Parumal Khubchand. The appeal has been fixed for the 27th. Mr. E. Leggett will represent the Government and Mr. Constable, the Public Prosecutor, it is said, will appear for the acquitted. Mr. Constable must have received permission of his employers to defend a person whom they wish to see convicted.

UNDER the power recently taken in the Legislative Department, to more effectually repress the purchase, from soldiers, of arms, ammunition, clothes and other articles, the Governor-General in Council has been pleased to declare that fifty rupees and two hundred rupees shall, for the purposes of Section 156 of the Army Act, 1881 (44 and 45 Vict., Cap. 58,) in India, be the respective equivalents of five pounds and twenty pounds.

MR. W. MAUDE, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is *Gazetted* to officiate as Under-Secretary in the Revenue, General and Statistical Departments of the Bengal Secretariat, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. W. C. Canduff.

MR. F. A. JACKSON, Officiating Superintendent, Chief Court, Punjab, and Shaikh Nanak Baksh, Pleader, have been appointed, under the Negotiable Instruments Act, XXVI, of 1881, Notaries Public within the limits of the Lahore District.

ON return from furlough of Mr. F. R. Mallet, Superintendent, Geological Survey of India, Mr. R. D. Oldham, Officiating Superintendent, has been appointed to officiate as Deputy Superintendent, 1st grade, *vice* Mr. C. L. Griesbach, on deputation ; Mr. P. N. Bose, Officiating Deputy Superintendent, 1st grade, goes back to his own place as Deputy Superintendent, 2nd Grade ; and Mr. E. J. Jones ceases to act as Curator.

MR. C. J. RODGERS, Archaeological Surveyor, Punjab Circle, has been appointed Honorary Numismatist to the Government of India.

THE Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras and the Secretary to the Government of Bombay in the Political Department have been especially empowered to grant licenses to export, by sea, ammunition, military stores, or arms other than cannon or than such rifles as come within the operation of Rule 5 of the Rules under the Indian Arms Act XI. of 1878, to ports in Native States or foreign settlements within the political jurisdiction of their respective Governments, the second, in addition, to ports within the political jurisdiction of the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf. The Political Resident at Aden will grant licenses for such exportation by sea from the port of Aden to any port on the Coast of Arabia or Africa.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL R. P. NISBET, C.I.E., Commissioner of the Rajal Pindi Division, is *Gazetted* a Resident of the 2nd Class, and Resident in Cashmere; Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Prideaux, Political Agent of the 1st Class, late Agent *Advis* for Affairs of the King of (Juddh, officiates as a Resident of the 2nd Class and Resident at Jeypore; and Colonel H. P. Peacock, Officiating Resident of the 2nd Class and Officiating Resident at Jeypore, reverts to his own as Political Agent of the 1st Class and is posted as Political Agent in Ulwar.

WE read in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* :—

"Though we are under an obligation to the *Times of India* for having made the disclosure that the Government offered it certain terms for its advocacy, our contemporary has not told us the precise nature of the term offered to it. Was it cash, say a fixed stipend? We know that during the Viceroyalty of Lord Lytton a proposal was made to pay the subservient papers with Government advertisements. The other way is to purchase a certain number of copies, and distribute them to Departments and officials. The *Pioneer* has the reputation of being an organ of the Government of India. He ought to be able to tell us whether the connection between the Government and its organ is simply platonic, or a little more grosser than that."

Our good contemporary does not exhaust the forms of persuasion. It omits, for instance, the sop of departmental printing, or other large contracts, to the scribes and Pharisees.

AFTER a good deal of effort to make rice a paying crop in Ceylon, the cultivation is to be abandoned. The Government have accepted the view that the experiment has failed. Paddy cannot be grown at a profit.

ON Monday, before the Parnell Commission several Irishmen, including some avowed Fenians, testified to outrages in which they took part.

On Tuesday, Reuter telegraphed the arrest of another Irish patriot, Mr. Sheehan, M. P., for Kerry, having been sentenced to one month's imprisonment under the Crimes Act for advising the adoption of the plan of campaign.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THERE was a students' outbreak at Madrid on the 10th. The demonstrations continued the whole day. Several Republican agitators were discerned among the lot. These turbulent proceedings were aimed at Senor Canovas and other Conservative leaders. They did not quite lynch anybody, however. Only Senor Canova's carriage was stoned. The mob dispersed without any fight.

THE sensation from Paris is that the Revision Committee has recommended the abolition of the Senate and the Presidency of the Republic.

THE St. Petersburg news is more stirring. The Czar has ordered an increase in the infantry in the Army Corps on the western frontier to two divisions each. The official explanation such as it is—is that it is a mere redistribution occasioned by the abandonment of Charkoff as a military district.

THE Lieutenant-Governor returned to Belvedere on Monday. The journey down was not a smooth one. Lady Bayley had her right arm in a sling and Mrs. Farquharson a bandage over her eye. Both of them had received injuries by the upsetting of the trolley on the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway by a stone happening to be on the line. Miss Bayley too had escaped from a dreadful doom. She avoided the trolley accident by riding, but the horse shied and carried her 20 feet down the Khud.

MR. PRESTIGE in charge of the trolley has been more seriously hurt and is detained at Kailash.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY is a child of Luck, indeed. The Lieutenant-Governor left for his Onissa tour on Wednesday—to find the powers of heaven had anticipated him. The scarcity there had been dispelled by the recent rains.

The party took the steamer *Resolute* at Prinsep's Ghat at 8 o'clock in the morning for Chandbally.

AT the instance of Mr. Woodroffe, in the absence of the Advocate General at Darjeeling, the High Court—the Chief Justice Sir Comer Petheram and Mr. Justice Trevelyan—have fixed the 28th instant for the final disposal of Mr. Moylan's appeal from the order of the Recorder of Rangoon disbarring him. Mr. Pugh, on behalf of the Recorder, wanted a longer interval to prepare himself for the fight.

THE Crawford Plot thickens. The Commission seems to have grown weary of the work, and on the conclusion of the evidence on the Chief of Bhore item for Rs. 10,000, the President asked Mr. Latham to choose out, and confine himself to, the strongest cases. It was also said that the Government was about to appoint Messrs. Moore and Steward to report on the Mamlukdars who had spoken to giving bribes, in disregard of the promise of immunity by Mr. Ommamey. Now comes the news that the Bombay High Court—Justices Birdwood and Justice—have issued notices on Sudekar, Dabir and others, calling upon them to shew cause why they should not be prosecuted under the Penal Code for giving illegal gratification to a public servant. The Government seems to be no party to this phase of the Scandal, for we see that the High Court also directed a notice on the Government Pleader.

TO add to the recent disasters in Indian waters, another steamer with as many native passengers as were lost in the *Sir John Lawrence*, is missing. Messrs. Shepherd & Co.'s coasting steamer *Valtarna* from Cutch Mandvie with 900 passengers, due in Bombay in a few hours, is overdue for over a week. Other steamers were sent out in search for her, but have brought back no news of the vessel. The belief gains that the *Valtarna* with her heavy human freight has been added to the treasures of the sea.

The *Valtarna* left Cutch Mandvie at 8 A.M., on Thursday week, in charge of a native Captain. She was to have called at Porebunder, but the weather was rough and, instead of touching there, she was heard only to whistle.

The vessel is 170 feet in length, her breadth of beam is some 26 feet, her registered speed 13 knots per hour, and she is licensed to carry 1,047 passengers.

ANOTHER total loss of an emigrant ship! Messrs. Shaw, Savill and Albion Company's iron ship *Trevelyan*, Captain Roberts, left the Clyde for Otago, New Zealand, with passengers and cargo, on the 23rd March and was last spoken on the 31st March. Since then no news was received of her, and she was posted missing at Lloyd's on the 10th October. On the 25th June, Messrs. Donald Currie & Co.'s *Drummond Castle*, Captain Winchester, on arrival at Plymouth, with the homeward Cape of Good Hope and Natal Mails, reported a large sailing-ship foundered close by the *Drummond Castle* off Cape Agulhas, during a terrific gale on the night of the 3rd June. Plymouth advices dated October 2 state that a life-buoy had been picked up at Koeberg, Plethenbergs Bay, marked *Trevelyan*. The number of passengers on board the *Trevelyan* is not stated, but that of the crew is given at 35. It is now believed that the lost vessel was off the South African coast early in June, and that that was the ship sighted by the *Drummond Castle*.

THE *Post Mortem* Enquiry on the lost *Mongolt* has resulted in the notable discovery that the three passengers—Nabaum Chunder Chatterjee, Bhobun Mohun Ghose and Mr. Akbar Hossein whose bodies were recovered and examined, were drowned, death resulting from asphyxia—medical gibberish for suffocation. The other enquiry by the Chief Magistrate into the negligent navigation of the Serang Captain—is still proceeding. No Marine Court has yet been ordered. Perhaps the Government await the result of the Ministerial investigation. It is not possible, though, that all the facts regarding the vessel and other circumstances in which the public are interested in connection with passenger steamers, will be disclosed, affording hints towards future precautions. The Police report as to the number of passengers lost is not forthcoming. In the meantime, we give a list, fuller than the one already published, of the persons lost and saved belonging to Andool and the adjoining villages.

LIST OF LOST.

Andool—

Namai Cha. Chatterjee, aged 40, Custom House Sircar to Messrs. Gillanders.

Monoary Lall Bose, under 40, Share-holder and clerk, Scientific Apparatus Co.

Hari Ch. Dass, 20, Cooper to Messrs. G. F. Kelner.

Bama Charan Mullick's brother, 19.

Jhorehat—

Ashootosh Mookerjee—30—Clerk, Money Order Office.

Mohendro Nath Ghose—25—Clerk, E. I. Railway.

Mohiary—

Nibarun Chatterjee—40—Clerk, Military Department.

One carpenter.

Argore—

Jogendro Nath Banerjee—25—Ticket Collector of the *Mongola*.

Hari Ch. Nandi—25—Cooper, Messrs. Cutler Palmer & Co.

Harry Ch. Chatterjee—25—Clerk, Health Department, Calcutta Corporation.

Sakrail—

Bhoobun M. Ghose—40—Clerk, Messrs. Arakie Brothers.

LIST OF SAVED.

Andool—

Mohendro Nath Mookerjee—27—Clerk, Custom House.

Debender Nath Mookerjee—26—Clerk.

Prosonno Coomar Banerjee—35.

Troylukonath Sircar—under 40—Clerk, Government Office.

Bhut Nath Bhattachajee—under 40—Clerk, Messrs. Burn & Co., (Severely wounded.)

Jogender N. Ghose—30—Clerk, E. I. R.

Jogender N. Roy—35—Custom House Sircar, Messrs. Cutler Palmer & Co.

Anath N. Roy—35—Clerk, Currency Office.

Mohiary—

Kissory Lall Mookerjee—35—Clerk, Military Accountant's Office.

Upendro Nath Ghattuk—30—Clerk, Government Office.

Argore—

Dwarka Nath Mookerjee—under 40—Clerk, P. W. D.

THE Ministry has again been unlucky. In consequence of the rebuke administered by the Home Secretary Mr. Mathews, for an article that the Commissioner of Police published in Murray's *Magazine*, Sir Charles Warren has withdrawn himself from the head of the London Police. The affair is creditable to neither side, least of all to the late commander-in-chief of the Metropolitan Force. The influence of the Non-Regulation government of Ireland on the governors is already showing itself. Otherwise, few statesmen at the present day would care to kick up a row over a magazine article, as to drive a high officer from the service. But if the minister had some ground for irritation, at the oozing out of Departmental secrets, there is no justification whatever for the practical retort of the head of the Department. Such a state-servant ought to possess some judgment and command of temper, and if he could not muster loyalty to the Minister, he should at least evince patriotism. Sir Charles has offered a bad parting example to the men under him. He evidently regards himself indispensable. Therein, we hope, he will find himself disappointed. What a pity that Mr. Monro did not stay a few months more. We hope he will yet be invited to fill the vacancy or to assist the new Chief.

THE Gods, alike of Heaven and Earth, love Pooja, and the tuneful Owen Meredith, who, for our sins, was set over us for a term as our Earthly Providence, found or made government a long holiday. But only for himself and his immediate Court. For nonetheless did he discountenance holidays for flesh and blood. Recreation and enjoyment were a privilege of Olympus. Therefore, though dearly loving both Pooja and holidays, for himself and the Immortals, he thought fit to curtail the Pooja holidays of the Government List by way of emphasising the distinction between men and gods. The men set up a great noise in consequence, disturbing the peace of Olympus itself, so he was induced to restore them. Thus he had learned to appreciate the Pooja holidays for the denizens of earth and skies, for officials and non-officials, for Covenanted and Uncovenanted. Of course, he learnt to value them all the more for himself. He retains that lesson still. The other day, during the Doorga Pooja, while the newspapers by the mail were talking of him as though he were at his post at Paris, he, unknown to the journalists, had slipped out of the Embassy, for a couple of weeks' vacation. His Lordship passed the Pooja vacation (so to speak) at his own seat Knebworth. He gives the news himself in a private note to India.

FOLLOWING the example of the *Urbs Primus in Indis*, our Municipal Commissioners meet specially next Thursday to vote addresses to both the retiring and the incoming Viceroys. The Bombay Corporation have prepared an address to the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava which has been likened to the play of Hamlet with Hamlet left out—for it takes no notice of the annexation of the Ava kingdom.

THE Governor of Madras has been on tour through his territory. That is the established fashion, of course. But Lord Connemara at least uses his eyes and his understanding. Everywhere he shows his strong common sense. He is solicitous of preventing the waste of public money in the name of illusory reform. At Nellore, he put his foot on one of the costly "fads" of the day. In these days of science worship, when superstition itself professes to rest on science, it requires some considerable courage to breathe a syllable against the prevailing fetish. Lord Connemara is no admirer of high pressure tillage in India under European experts. He does not believe in agricultural chemistry and physics as the panacea for the poverty of India. He is old-fashioned and wise enough to avow himself an orthodox Indian agriculturist. He has not much faith in district farms in which he had seen a great deal of money sunk to no good. He believes very strongly in agricultural shows, but only if the rayyets take an interest in them. According to him, the native implement is generally as good as the foreign one; and he doubts very much whether all the experienced agriculturists at home can teach the Indian peasants very much.

OFFICIAL journalism, after all, is not all exempt from the calamities that pursue journalism in general. If it has its obvious advantages, it has its share of disadvantages, too, though these may not be so obvious. Indeed, the "outer barbarians" of the Press know nought of the pangs that their brethren, basking in the sunshine of official smiles, suffer from. The worst of their case is that they dare not complain. They are in the situation of the thief's mother in the Indian saying who is not permitted to lament for her son. The most favoured of the tribe just now is in this plight. The journal by appointment as it were, has received a visitation—of not the most delightful kind—from Authority. The frown of a Prefect or a Minister of the Interior would be bad enough, but on this occasion a Higher Power is offended with the *Moniteur Official*. The great *Pioneer's* special Bombay communication has been stopped by command of the Indra of the Western Ghats. And our contemporary can scarcely—hint a fault or hesitate dislike.

The British Bohemian who was wont to delight the public through the *Pioneer*, with his tales of the Western Coast, has been muzzled. He was summoned like a trembling thief to the awful Presence and chastised into self-effacement on pain of being sent to official Coventry—perhaps ordered to some solitary hole and corner or some malaria-infested fen. And his maternal patron in the Press can but barely impart the news to the world by way of explanation to the readers for the stoppage of their usual supply of the Bombay article. Even this is done with great tact, with subdued periphrasis. And why? Because—as our contemporary says—"or we shall have the blow descending on ourselves." Can this be a real fear? Then is the Press of India gagged without the necessity of legislative repression! Our contemporary begins—"One always speaks with bated breath of the high polines of the Government of Bombay." Who is this one? We do not know of anybody that so speaks, within the Presidency or without.

"But (continues the Editor) the inquiries that are being made for the Bombay letter that has been looked forward to—more especially by His Excellency the Governor—at fortnightly intervals in these columns, forces us to say that by way of explanation our readers must imagine for themselves a recent scene at Mahableshwar when an offending correspondent, summoned up to appear before His Excellency in full Council, received a fitting rebuke from the statesman under whom he serves, and was warned, with all the circumstances that could give dignity to the injunction, that his contributions to the Press must cease. 'Romaney,' indeed, is no more: one vigorous stroke from the Colossus of the West has extinguished him. These things, once more, are not to be lightly spoken of, or we shall have the blow descending on ourselves. Let it only be said that, in certain quarters, the suppression of this unhappy writer is attributed to his having ventured to say what everyone was thinking about the Government in the earlier stages of the Crawford case. And it will cause no surprise to those who have amused themselves with the study of the philosophic Radical in office, to find the same Governor one day expressing to a native editor his sympathy with the Congress as an agency for the improvement of the Administration, and the next suppressing a correspondent, over whom he chances to have control, for a perfectly honest criticism upon public affairs."

That is tolerably plain, to be sure, still it strikes us as inadequate. It is not thus that great journals protect their agents and their own honour. Would the *Times* in such a matter have contented itself with polishing its irony and pointing its innuendo at the offending statesman? The *Pioneer* should never forget that it has the interests and the honour of the whole Press in India in its keeping.

THE assent of the Governor-General in Council having been given to the Act for the extension of the limits of Calcutta, the question arises as to the best method of dealing with those portions of the Suburbs which remain outside the amalgamation limits. Mr. Forbes, Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, now on leave, appears to have left his views on the subject. He thinks that the best arrangement for the excluded area in the South, will be to treat it in connection with a revision of the boundaries of the South-Suburban Municipality, that is, the Municipality of Behala. The whole area should, in his opinion, be subdivided into two municipalities having Tolly's Nullah for their line of demarcation. A similar question has to be decided with regard to the northern portion of the Suburbs, *viz.*, Cossipore, Chitpore, portions of Balliaghata and Ooltadanga, and the Baranagar municipality. Mr. Forbes would amalgamate them with the southern half of the Baranagar municipality, which is of a more urban and remunerative character than the northern half. As, having regard to Section 9 of Act III (B. C.) of 1884, the consent of the Commissioners in meeting of each of the municipalities concerned to any revision of boundaries, is necessary in order to authorize Government to take any steps in the matter, a Sub-Committee of six Commissioners of the Suburban Municipality has been appointed for the purpose, the municipalities of Baranagar and Behala being invited to send three delegates each to be present at their deliberations.

THE *Pioneer's* Calcutta Correspondent does not evidently like the last appointment to the High Court bench, but as the Powers have willed against his wish, he, like a wise man, suppresses a wry face with a dubious and enigmatical treatment of the subject, thus :—

"Dr. Gurudass Banerji's appointment to the Bench of the High Court has come as a surprise only in the way that we, the public, always expect the first favourite to win. It was known that a native was to be appointed to the vacancy, but it was considered that the Government would select and, if need be, go out of their way to select a Mahomedan. It is said that no Mahomedan was thought up to the mark. This may or may not represent the fact. The amusing thing is that now the choice has fallen upon a Bengali, the *Mirror*, of all papers, is all for a Mahomedan. Whether this proceeds from dislike to the new Judge, or merely represents the feelings of a man who, having obtained all he desires, can afford to be generous, who shall say? It is murmured in some quarters that Babu Rashbehary Ghose, another pleader of the High Court, has more independence of character and more natural ability, and it is suggested that with less independence he might have been more successful; but in any case Dr. Gurudass Banerji is a practitioner of great learning and experience, and has always commanded the respect of his profession. It is to be observed that, assuming the Bench to remain at its present strength—and there seems no prospect of an increase in the number of the Judges—the next vacancies will have to be recruited either from the ranks of the Bar or of the Covenanted Civil Service, as the case may be, the Government having gone to the limits of its powers in appointing outsiders."

We believe the truth about the matter is, that Baboo Gurudas had been introduced by Sir Richard Garth to his successor as the ablest *Hindu lawyer* and a gentleman who could give him the best assistance, in the way of information, about the ways and manners of the people of the Lower Provinces. Accordingly, the Bengali pleader did "coach" the new Chief on several occasions. Thus too he had the best opportunities for impressing the Chief most favorably with his knowledge and acuteness, as well as the moderation of his views and the mildness of his manners, and his honourable character. When the time came, under direction from the Government of India, for the Chief Justice to name a native gentleman for the bench, it was the most natural thing in the world for him to name Dr. Gurudas Banerjee. Sir Comer Petheram told Dr. Banerjee at the time that he would get the office, and the Pleader communicated the news to his friends, though, in the humble spirit of a Brahman and the prudence of a wise man that he is, he did not allow himself to be sanguine. He knew how many were the slips between the cup and the lip. Above all, the good Hindu had cause for fear when the great Ali, supported by his British Begum and the certificates of his paper Branches, went forth to conquer Great Britain and the India Office.

THE obscure little village of Kotrung on the west bank of the river, above Ooterpara, once the site of a Mogul dockyard—now scooped out and despoiled of its soil in the operations for brick-making by the Calcutta Municipality and its lessees, has earned an enviable distinction. It has not only its municipality but a *rara avis* of a corporation with a soul to be—blessed! The Kotrung Board has courage as well as brains. The Commissioners have shown at once common sense and adaptability, by holding their sittings in the evening, after the business of their individual avocations is over. This is the old country practice and still obtains, but it has been swamped by European innovation and is getting obsolescent in deference to the convenience of the official classes. Sir George Campbell tried to revive it, but it won't do, and for very good reasons. Those reasons were special ones and don't apply to a homogeneous population living together in the same place near their business-quarter. The people should recognise their own convenience.

AMONG the numerous visitors of note expected during the present season, not the least interesting will be Miss Manning, the Secretary to the National Indian Association—the social reform society of London, not the Caucus of Surrender Not's juvenile Irreconcilables. She is already come to the Western Presidency where they have given her a hearty welcome. She deserves it from all parts of India. She has devoted herself to the good of India and of Indians. She is the soul of the organization started by the late Miss Carpenter for the enlightenment and social elevation of our people. Without agreeing to all their views and methods, we can surely admire the good motives and benevolent zeal of our foreign friends. Miss Manning did not exhaust all her soul and her energies in her interest on public questions and schemes regarding Indian improvement. She not only associated with men and women from the East, Oriental and European, with a view to the furtherance of her views and the objects of the society, but cultivated the natives specially. Apart from her, so to say, professional character, she was good to them. Our young men going to England for education or for qualifying themselves for a profession, be it the Civil Service, the Bar, Medicine, Agriculture, or any other, are sure of a welcome from her. Many such have profited by her interest and her advice. She has a family claim on India. Her mother had been long a resident in this country, which she knew intimately, in the best sense, in its past as in its present, and whose people she thoroughly appreciated and loved. In Literature Mrs. Manning made her mark as Mrs. Spiers, and there can be no two opinions about the excellence and high usefulness of her work on India. That book appeared more than thirty years ago. Notwithstanding the mass of writing on the subject that has since appeared, it holds its ground still. True to its name, there is no other which gives such a charming and yet accurate picture of Life in Ancient India. Miss Manning must, in some measure, be prepared to feel herself at home in the India of to-day.

THE papers report the mysterious disappearance of a European Prince in Asiatic waters. The Landgrave of Hesse had been out with his suite globe-trotting *incognito*. He was last heard of at Singapore, where he arrived from Java by the *S. S. Volga*. The following Sunday he did not appear at breakfast. He was probably unwell, they thought. But when he did not come to lunch too, the denial of food was considered too much for a European and so enquiry was made. He could not be found however, and the horrible suspicion of suicide occurred to his people and others. As the port was found open, it was supposed that he let himself down into the bosom of the great sea for a grave. The ways of our European fellow-creatures are strange. Here is a man who voluntarily makes a world of arrangements and leaves home and dear ones to go to the ends of the earth on so simple and easy an errand as to die quick, somehow.

THE Lewis Jubilee Sanitarium at Darjeeling is intended for Natives alone, whether Hindoos or Mahomedans or Christians. To furnish it with sufficiently spacious accommodation for these various classes, separate houses will have to be built, for which the Committee have already got a good site, and all that now remains to secure the success of the undertaking, is provision of adequate funds for the construction of the buildings, and their needful equipment. The Committee have hit upon an excellent idea for popularizing the institution. They intend to bring the benefits of the Sanitarium within reach of

comparatively humbler classes, by admitting the lowest class of patients at one rupee per day, and at even a smaller rate, if considerable funds are forthcoming. The need of such an institution—an asylum to fly to in the intervals of life's weary work, or to recover shattered health—is too patent to require any words at our hands. It is truly a national object which it has in view, and we hope a united national effort will be made to ensure its success.

WE congratulate the Committee of the Baranagar English School on the renewal of the Government grant of Rs. 7,500, for their school building, which had lapsed in consequence of the unfortunate litigation forced on them by the late Babu Kali Mohun Das, Vakil, High Court. The fresh sanction has been made subject to the same conditions as before, none of which is that an equal sum should be contributed by the Committee, in addition to the provision of land for the building. A good site for the school-house on the river side has been given to the Committee by Rai Surendranath and Rai Jotendranath Chowdry, Zemindars of Taki—who have also generously offered a donation of Rupees two thousand. The Committee have nevertheless an up-hill task in raising, by subscription, the balance, and we are therefore peculiarly glad that Kumar Dowlut Chandra Roy, grand-son of the well-known Raja Baidyanath, has come to the Committee's rescue, by offering a donation of one thousand rupees. We commend Kumar Dowlut Chandra's public spirit and beneficence. The other day, he placed a sum of Rupees two thousand in the hands of Government, as a permanent endowment for founding an annual medal to be awarded to the Bachelor of Arts in the Calcutta University who stood first in the examination. The cause of education must now look to such self-help in the country, for its chief support, and the Kumar's example cannot be too widely imitated.

A EUROPEAN merchant of high standing at Samarang, in Singapore, has come to grief. He has been caught in the act. We mean he was discovered in the exciting diversion of putting money in his pocket at the expense of the state and his fellow-subjects and specially his fellow-merchants, by the process vulgarly called smuggling. He had extensive dealings. He exported largely the famous produce

Of Bourdeaux, Chambertin, Frontignac, St. Peray,

Lafitte, Chateau Margaux, And Sillery (a cargo

On which John Bull sensibly (?) lays an embargo),

Our European merchant did not care for the embargo and would not pay the fine established for removing it in any case. He had a simple method of avoiding the payment and having his cargo. He has so long practised it that he came to regard it as a matter of course. In November 1886, 14 cases of "Chateau Lafitte" arrived at that port consigned to the accused. It appears that besides 538 ordinary bottles of genuine "Chateau Lafitte," there were in the cases 138 other bottles made of zinc, and these were found to contain 186 cetties of raw Turkish opium. It is said the discovery was made on one of the cases taken at random being opened and examined by a customs house officer to verify the invoice. *Credat Judæus Apella - non ego.* The Custom House must have got an inkling from an informer—possibly, some base enemy or teacherous friend. Or, the exporter must have fallen out with the Customs examiners and appraisers over their share of the spoil. The latter is the more probable supposition. These officers know by instinct when an attempt is made to impose on them. But they are agreeable folk and make no bones if properly fed. It is the over avaricious—the beggars who would make a monopoly of making money—even by underhand means—whom they detest, as also the impudent hypocrites who, after a notorious career, pretend to take fire at the slightest suggestion of a shady operation. It was thus that old Lazarus, of our city—a very Dives in prosperity—in an unlucky moment, chose to shut his eyes against his sores and thought nobody else could, in consequence, see them. Poor man! he was rudely awakened from his ostrich dream. It is to his credit that the disgrace which he thus invited on himself stung him to the quick and he did not long survive it. But if Lazarus was for once foolish and suffered, there are hundreds who, though in the same perilous boat, manage, by tact and prudent expenditure, to escape.

Be that as it was, our Singapore merchant was detected in passing through the Custom House opium as claret. It was proposed to prosecute him. This was no easy matter. A "merchant prince" who has thriven by withholding duties on opium is, besides being a powerful man, a *persona grata* in local society. Nobody cared to touch him. A thousand difficulties were presented in the way of bringing him to

justice. But somebody had made it his business to see that the smuggler should be punished. And so he was punished, though nearly two whole years were consumed in the proceedings. On being found guilty, the accused was sentenced to one year's imprisonment and a fine of ten thousand guilders.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1888.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN'S MANIFESTO ON THE CONGRESS.

SIR AUCKLAND COLVIN has read a timely homily to the Indian National Congress. His letter to Mr. Hume is a frank and dignified remonstrance against some of the later developments of the movement. It should be taken as a responsible authoritative expression of official attitude towards the Congress, and taken also in good part. If the leaders of the Congress are wise, they should not quarrel with it. He is no enemy, but like a friend he says he would be only too glad to see those who direct the counsels of the Congress return to the attitude which in its earlier days characterised it and abandon the aggressive and hostile tone of their later publications. He offers this advice in the true interests of the institution itself. For he reminds the leaders of the Congress that they only alienate from them the sympathy of official classes and provoke opposition by their later tactics. "The aggressive tone which its organs adopt may rather hinder than assist the Government when the hour for action may seem to it to have come." He thus takes the Congress men into his confidence, and speaks from his higher platform of knowledge and authority to those whom he regards *in statu pupillari*. He is himself, he adds, in the Liberal official camp, and not without sympathy towards the objects and aims of the Congress. Indeed, he saw little to object to in the proceedings of the first and second sitting of the Congress, and even looked upon them with sympathy. But as we had anticipated, there came a rude awakening when, throwing off the moderation of their earlier programme and method, the Congress party began to assume a tone of extravagance which could scarcely be agreeable to the responsible rulers of the land, and was likely to arouse the jealousy of other classes and the apprehensions of moderate men of all sections of the population.

In fairness to the Congress party, however, it must be said that in their efforts to educate and enlighten popular opinion on the objects of the movement, by the publication and circulation of small tracts in the vernaculars, they were under the well-known disadvantage of making themselves intelligible to classes quite unfamiliar with political subjects. They had to bring themselves to a level with the meanest understanding, and, if in their sole endeavour to be understood, they made use of illustrations such as those which occur in the conversation between Moulvi Farid-ud-din and Rambaksh of Kam-bakhtpur, and to which Sir Auckland, from his point of view, not unnaturally, takes exception to, it must, in some measure, be excused by the inherent difficulty of making abstract political ideas acceptable to the ordinary range of mind. They were not the best or least offensive illustrations, perhaps, but almost any illustrations would be open to some objection. At any rate, the extracts from the Congress publications, to which the Lieutenant-Governor of the

North Western Provinces takes such serious objection, are not altogether indefensible from the point of view the questions elucidated therein are usually regarded by the extreme section of unofficial politicians. Their tone and substance are, we are afraid, hardly different from the tone and substance of many of the Native Press. Whatever the views and attitude of that Press, they are not necessarily formed in bad faith, even though without sufficient knowledge. *Animus* against the Crown is out of the question. Sir Auckland Colvin is just enough to admit, there must be inevitable differences in the views of official and un-official classes, on these questions. We have carefully read the extracts, and must confess to a sense of relief that they are not more atrocious than we find them. These passages have been cited as specimens of the hostile spirit actuating the Congress party, but they may be shown to have a far more inoffensive aim. They indeed criticise the action of Government in several respects with blunt severity, but this by no means to subvert and revolutionize the established machinery of Government, but with far humbler objects. A little adjustment of that machinery here and there—some slight reform in the administration by way of a response to the claims of the Congress, will more than amply satisfy the utmost expectations of the vast majority of even the most thoughtful and aspiring. We have not spared the Congress when we considered it outstripping its proper limits. We have never spared ourselves in private in giving our views to all who care to inquire. And we mean yet to make some of these public when the proper time comes. Meanwhile, in justice to the institution, we must vindicate its character from the imputation of seditious motives. It may be true enough some of the Congress men are liable to be carried away by their ardour to use unguarded language, the effects of which upon illiterate classes are unlikely to be of a healthy kind. This must be checked. The leaders of the Congress are quite welcome to what Mr. Hume calls their quiet teachings and preachings, but they must expect to be brought to book whenever their professions differ from their practice. Sir Auckland Colvin's complaint against them, they cannot afford to slight. He accuses them of systematically "holding up the British Government and the English officials in India to the indignation of the people as unjust, inconsiderate ill-informed and reckless of the consequences of their actions.....Here and there some of the officers of the Government in India are given credit, if not for good service rendered at least for good intentions. But anything that may be said on this score is far more than obscured by the thickness and depth of the darker shades of the picture." He reminds the Congress of the benefits of British rule and triumphantly points to its work in the past. Notwithstanding, however, all the loyal professions of the Congress men, he regrets to find there is no reference at all in their publications, particularly the tracts which have been extensively circulated in the country, to that work. He says :—

"Of the India of to-day, as we know it; of India under education; of India compelled, in the interests of the weaker masses, to submit to impartial justice; of India brought together by road and rail; of India entering into the first-class commercial markets of the world; of India of religious toleration; of India assured, for terms of years unknown in less fortunate Europe, of profound and unbroken peace; of India of the free press; of India finally taught for the first time that the end and aim of rule is the welfare of the people and not the personal aggrandisement of the sovereign—I fail to find a syllable of recognition."

Sir Auckland has spoken at once with freedom

and moderation, and, on the whole, with great justice. It was inevitable that there should be large divergence of views between officials and their private critics. Without excusing, for the intemperance and injudiciousness of the tone of some of the utterances of responsible heads of the Congress movement, or discussing either its pretences or its programme, all we claim for it, and will always claim, is fairplay. Just now, we are concerned most to vindicate the Congress from the suspicion of sedition. While we say this, we must warn the Congress men, as they value the continuance of popular countenance and official sympathy, they must all put a restraint upon their tongue, while their chiefs applied themselves to a deeper study of the great problem of Indian government and a more practical acquaintance with the immediate needs of the Empire and the true measure of the aspirations and capacity of the people. That will be a valuable discipline for themselves. Sir Auckland Colvin's manifesto must be laid to heart. His concluding words have a meaning which cannot be missed: "Meanwhile, I shall personally watch their proceedings with the interest they deserve, and follow the effects of their workings in these Provinces with the vigilance with which, as their head, I endeavour to inform myself of all public movements which show themselves within our limits." The Congressmen have everything to gain by keeping these words before them. In order to profit by them to any appreciable extent, they would have probably to impose on them a good deal of sacrifice—to alter their tactics, to weed the *personnel*, to infuse fresh blood and seek new alliances.

THE LATE EARL OF LUCAN.

ACCORDING to Reuter's message, Lord Lucan has at length paid the debt of Nature. He was as old as the century. He received no liberal education but passed at once from school to the army. From licking fads and fisticuffing other scapegraces and disturbing *alma mater's* peaceful neighbours and the Queen's lieges in general in the precincts of Westminster, to fighting and bleeding in more real earnest and on a vaster scale, as a unit in the organised disturbance of states and nations, in the pay of Government against Government, is no violent change but rather a normal development. It is thus, we believe, that aptitude for the profession of arms—itsself a necessary evil at best—is usually evolved in boyhood and discovered in school-life. By allowing scope to the juvenile bent, Nature is conciliated and cultivated, and the highest skill brought out. The opposite policy of forcing the square substance into the round hole, was to stir up war in the individual and cause bitterness and disappointment to the family and cripple the nation by converting one of its units into a thorn in the side of the rest. The aristocracy is, of course, above suppression. Even the farthing rushlight of its most insignificant member is in no danger of being violently snuffed out or hid under a bushel. Great, however, as is the advantage of birth, it cannot make up for the deficiencies of Nature. Young Bingham could never have been great in any line, but his best chance lay in one of the professions that were least distinctly intellectual. He might be an indifferent preacher or a bad lawyer at best, perhaps a dangerous diplomat. It was well for himself as well as his country, that he embraced arms and stuck to the business of war. The consequence was as might have been anticipated. If he could not rise to a Wellesley, he at least died a Field Marshal.

He entered his profession at a period unfavorable to practice. England was enjoying the calumet of Forty Years. It was a period of extraordinary activity and, on the whole, of unprecedented prosperity, during which the nation extended its commerce, improved its arts and manufactures, enlightened its mind and perfected its institutions. But *cui bono?* cried the man of war, lounging at watering places at home or devilling deep at hells abroad. For the young soldier with "fight" in him, it was certainly a depressing time.

There was no opportunity for learning real warfare, to say nothing of acquiring even a clasp. Promotion was possible because man was mortal. Or, it lay through the despised path of purchase. The generous spirit of young Bingham chafed under circumstances beyond his or anybody's control. At length, he found in not only foreign but foreigners' service his chance of a noviciate. Heir to an Irish earldom, he in his 26th year easily entered the unreformed House of Commons as member for County Mayo, retaining his seat till 1830, notwithstanding absence on foreign service. But politics was not his *forte*. So he volunteered his sword to the Russians in their war with Turkey in 1828, and fought in the campaign under General Diebitsch.

In 1840, he entered the House of Lords as one of the Representative Peers of Ireland. But he made no more mark as a senator in the Upper than he had done in the Lower Chamber. As a soldier, he found a chance of usefulness again fourteen years after, when the war broke out with Russia. He was in command of a Division of the Light Cavalry in the Crimea. He fought at its head at the great battle of the 20th September 1854, before the heights of the river Alma, and on the 25th of the next month at the bloody engagement at Balaklava, and last not least again in ten days, on the 5th November, at Inkermann. With the Peace, he finally sheathed his sword. He was loaded with honours for his services in the field, but his reputation even as a military man was not of the higher order. He was at best a hero of the Gough type, but courage in a British soldier of a noble house is but a matter of course. At Balaklava he blundered into a fearful mess. He was plunged after the war into a long and angry controversy on the subject. He justified himself on the orders of Lord Raglan, but the latter denied that he had given any for the charge, and the bearer of the message—whatever it was—had been among the foremost of the victims of the action taken on it. Lord Lucan as the Commander of the Light Horse should have known better than to accept, without a remonstrance and argument, a call to destruction of his force and to the risk of tarnishing the honour of British arms. His case was different from that of the men whom he led

Half a league, half a league,

Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death.

* * * *

"Forward, the Light Brigade!
Charge for the guns!" he said:

Into the valley of Death

Rode the six hundred.

"Forward, the Light Brigade!"

Was there a man dismay'd?

Not tho' the soldier knew

Some one had blunder'd:

Theirs not to make reply,

Theirs not to reason why,

Theirs but to do and die:

Into the valley of Death

Rode the six hundred.

Luckily, the honor of England was saved by splendour of the execution, the cool steadiness of the British soldier and the exuberance of British valour. As the French General Bosquet said, *It was magnificent, but it was not war*. If anything were wanting to complete the triumph of retreat, it was supplied by English Literature. It would be worth incurring a larger disaster for any nation to have such a patriotic lay as the occasion brought forth. It is simply perfect. His bitterest enemies may forgive the deceased nobleman for having, by his rash eagerness for fight, afforded the occasion for the production of the finest war song in the world. Appropriate in rhythm and movement and dramatic in expression, the *Charge of the Light Brigade* breathes fire and sword, and brings the listener into the very thick of the terrible conflict and carnage.

ILL-FEELING BETWEEN CLASSES AND ITS ADVOCATE.

In a recent issue of the *Pioneer*, is a long article under the heading "Sedition and its Antidote." Often enough, have we noticed in our contemporary's columns articles clearly intended to set class against class, people against people, Mahomedans against Hindoos, North Country Rajpoots and Shicks against the Bengalis, and now it would try its best to widen the breach between Anglo-Indians and Eurasians and Natives.

In the article to which I allude, we read, "The disgusting manners of the increasing numbers of low class Europeans and Eurasians towards natives of rank is a source of constantly growing friction." This sentence bears on its very face the stamp of recklessness and absurdity, for we ask where and how do natives of rank come in contact with low class Europeans and Eurasians? It is not the poor European and Eurasian that causes the "friction" the *Pioneer* complains of, but the haughtiness and incivilities offered to natives of rank by the governing classes, the Civilians of India. I have known men paying twenty, nay thirty thousand rupees towards the land taxes of this country, kept in the blazing sun hanging about the tents of his mightiness the Deputy Commissioner Sahib or the Collector Sahib, without even the civility of a chair being offered to them, because the Zemindar had refused to lend an elephant or had not sent a dallee up to the Huzzoor's expectations, or, even on some occasions, because the native of rank would not tip the Huzzoor's bearer or chaprassi. This fact has not only been witnessed by me over and over again, but also by one of our most able politicians some years ago, when he was in India and was one of the causes of the appointment of the Commission to enquire into the way India was governed and the actual requirements of the country. There is not the slightest doubt that the original scope of the enquiries that this should have made, were much burked and curtailed by those in power and but comparatively a dry bone given to the country. But thank God this Commission will not be the last. One must and will again shortly sit upon the working of the present system of recruiting the Covenanted and Uncovenanted Civil Services of India.

Civilians were supposed to receive the high pay they get to prevent their palms from itching, but travelling about the country as I do, especially amongst respectable natives, it is impossible to close my ears to the revelations of bribery and corruption that daily reach them in ordinary conversation, and not only mine but of all Englishmen that respectable Natives can trust and before whom they do not fear to speak openly and aboveboard.

With regard to the modern Civilian, the handwriting on the wall *Mene Mene Tkel Et.*, has appeared and it only requires a few more Crawfords, Laidmans, Beameses, Sir Alfred Lyalls with Madras and other scandals for the Civilian Oligarchy and Civilianism, as it at present exists, to be wiped out. It is only the other day that the mouthpiece of Civilians was advocating that the Hindoos and Mahomedans should be allowed to fight out their religious quarrels. What would England say if the *Times* or the *Standard* had advocated the same policy with regard to Roman Catholics and Orangemen in Ireland and that the Irish Constabulary should not interfere when there was a religious outbreak on account of opposition-procession.

The *Pioneer* goes on to say, "In testing loyalty the first criterion is that a man's acts should tend to make the people contented. To stir up discontent should be treason." We ask what should be thought of the ruler both as an honest man and a politician when the country asks for an enquiry, a public enquiry, into an offence against the predominant religion of the inhabitants of that country, and the Government, through the advice of Civilian Secretaries, were to tell them flatly that they would not give them that enquiry? If the Government expects its people to be loyal to them, they must be loyal and honest with their subjects. Do the acts of the generality of the Civilians in India lead one to believe that they treat Natives of rank with befitting courtesy? I can emphatically state that they do not. Here is a case in point. When at Benares, last hot weather, many respectable Natives wished to hold a public meeting respecting the Benares Temple case, for the purpose of having a petition drawn up pointing out to the Government of India that the action of the Government in looting the temples and for the misappropriation of the trust money was an act diametrically opposed to the utterances of Her Gracious Majesty in her Proclamation and was an infringement of the religious liberties of the Hindoos confirmed to them by that Proclamation, the great Bengalee orator, the Secretary of the Dharma Arya Somaj drafted out a petition to the Chairman of the Municipality, Mr. White, c.s., Collector of Benares, asking for permission to have the use of the Town Hall, Benares, for the purpose of a meeting on a subject of the utmost importance to all Hindoos. In accordance with a Municipal ruling it was necessary to get this petition countersigned by six respectable reises of the City of Benares. The signs of the petition were

Ram Kali Chowdhri,
Munshi Sadho Lal,
Mr. Sanyal, M. A.,

Retired Subordinate Judge.
Banker.
Professor of Mathematics, Benares
College.

Mahdeo Das,
Gokul Chund,

Banker.
Banker.

One of the Leading Pundits, Professor of Sanskrit, Benares
College.

The application was granted, Mr. White writing across the application that he did not see any reason why the meeting should not be held in the Town Hall. In printing the post card notices of the meeting, the printer by error put down that the meeting would

be held on Sunday the 19th of April. It so happened that Sunday fell on the 24th, so to prevent any mistake I went to the Municipal Secretary, to whom I had been referred by the Chairman, and explained the error that had taken place in printing the notices, and asked if it would make any difference if the meeting was held on Sunday the 20th. Mr. White gave the Municipal Secretary instruction that the sanction to hold the meeting in the Town Hall was withdrawn and ordered the native gentlemen who had signed the petition to attend at his Kutchery. Here he spoke to them roughly. Ram Kali Chowdhari, Munshi Sadho Lal and Professor Sanyal all spoke up and said there was no reason for refusing to allow the meeting to be held in the Town Hall, that Mr. White having given sanction he could not well withdraw it, that if the Town Hall had been wanted for any one else but Captain Hearsey, Mr. White would not have acted in this way. Mr. White replied that he was afraid Captain Hearsey would abuse the Civilians and that there might be a row, and that this being a religious matter and a matter which had been settled over 30 years ago by the Government of India, it ought to be allowed to rest and not raked up afresh. Moonshree Sadhoo Lal said that he was ready to go security that there would be neither row nor disturbance of any kind. Mr. White again said to these gentlemen that it was for a religious purpose and for that reason likewise he would not grant the Town Hall. It was pointed out that Sre Krishna Prosen Sen had applied for and obtained the use of the Hall in the previous year for the celebration of the anniversary of the Arya Dharma Somaj which was an entirely religious affair. Mr. White then said it was for a political purpose to protest against the action of the Indian Government and therefore on that ground he would not allow the use of the Town Hall. It was pointed out to him that the Town Hall had already been on more than one occasion used for political meetings, *viz.*, for a meeting to protest against the Income Tax and also for a meeting to protest against the increase of the Salt Tax. Mr. White, driven into a corner, said he did not care, he would not allow the Town Hall to be used for the purpose that it was wanted, and again spoke very harshly to the native gentlemen in question for asking the Town Hall for Captain Hearsey's use. The Native gentlemen were much annoyed at this treatment and I was at the time very nearly reporting the case officially to the Lieutenant-Governor of the North West Provinces. It is men of the stamp of Mr. White, who are not gentlemen in our acceptation of the term, that do these acts which cause them and the whole of their service to be looked on with the most intense hatred by all the unofficial and respectable classes in India.

ANDREW HEARSEY, Captain.

UNDER WHICH KING?

I bear my tribute to the courage and love of justice which induced the *Indian Mirror* to publish the unjust and malicious attack upon it, penned by Mr. Hume. But to any thoughtful mind that letter gives food for serious reflection. Who is Mr. Hume? He is a Civilian who gained a peculiar nickname in the Mutiny. He has been Secretary to the Government of India, in the Department of Odds and Ends. He is a retired Civilian who has gone through the strange experience of seeing his department revived and his work given to another. And to-day he professes to be the exponent of free native public opinion, and yet in this case he discourages and discountenances honest opinion fearlessly expressed. I and a good many others believe in what Mr. Hume denounces. But his action makes us ask, In what way it is possible for Mr. Hume to assert that he expresses the views of the natives, and reflects the opinions of native society, while the *Mirror* does neither the one nor the other? Where has this Daniel received his commission that he should thus come to judgment? But besides his offence against the *Mirror* he has gone out of his way to bring down discredit upon the cause we have at heart. The son of Jocy has shown himself no match for the Gallio of Naini Tal. Who authorised Mr. Hume to risk so desperate and so unnecessary an adventure? Did he think his Gallio would come down and be quietly bound, or did he suppose a man so trained to public discussion as Sir A. Colvin would stultify himself and make himself a reproach in India, and a laughing stalk in England, simply to oblige his *quondam* colleague with a cheap and nasty triumph? Shame! Shame! if such are to be the leaders of the hopes of the Indian Nation. But Sir, I would ask your permission and forbearance to go a step further. The Congress is put forward as a national movement on the part of the natives of India—a movement we ought all to be proud of. Yet my cheeks burn with indignation when I see such men as Mr. W. C. Bonerjee, the Editor of the *Mirror* and the eloquent Surendra Nath obscured in their legitimate enterprise and their patriotic efforts by the ever meddling, ever interfering, ever objectionable Anglo-Indian. Let us make our national movement, national. Let us, strong in our sense of duty to our native land, in the justice of our cause, and in the righteousness of our contentions, discard once and for ever the patronage of a daring and disappointed foreigner. See to what

reproach, odium and obloquy we expose ourselves and with justice. We, who are the Indian Nation, are to be represented in Bengal by the son of Jocy, the Scotch Radical, an ex-heaven-born, in Madras by an English Barrister, in Bombay by a Parsee, who has been rejected with contumely by Finsbury, where even the street boys make a joke of his name, and in England by a man who is credited with cutting himself off from all Beliefs and by an ex-Indian journalist. Are all these foreigners members of the Indian Nation? Or are our noblest and highest aspirations to be made the cat's paw of a section and not the best accepted section of British Radicalism? Mr. Hume and his English *confre'es* have like the shoe maker gone beyond their last, when they are so eaten up with the conceit that they represent us, as to dare to rebuke us if we dance to any other pipe than their own. No, Sir, the time has come and the man has come. In place of Mr. Hume it is our duty to install Mr. Bonerjee. He has the culture, the far-seeing intellect, the pure and unselfish patriotism which those who now lead us cannot possibly have and only ungracefully affect. Let Madras which maintains such a paper as the *Hindu*, find amongst Hindoos a leader fit to act as the colleague of our own friend and guide. Let Bombay follow the example of Madras. Then and only then shall we be in an honest position from which to fearlessly challenge the suffrages of the world; then and then only can the Indian Nation assert itself and demand as its right the respect and attention of the Government and people of England. Is it possible that a people so astute as the English can believe in an Indian Nation, when, except Messrs. Bonerjee, Lall Mohun Ghose and Naoroji, all the representatives of India and its people are self-commissioned Englishmen? Instead of creating sympathy, the bulk of the English people will hold that a section of the extreme Radicals are engaged in the effort to palm off an Indian Parnellism as an Indian National movement. Far be this reproach from us, who after all must be the bones and the sinews of the Congress. To shew the utter and comprehensive selfishness of the English clique, which is playing some game of their own with the natural desire of educated natives, to turn their education to the service of India, we are told we are to have the next Congress presided over, by whom? By a noble Indian? By a man whose name and position must make the world believe he knows those whom he represents? By a native statesman? No, none of these can be found, or if they can be found, are not thought worthy by Hume and Co., to stand forward as the mouthpiece of our national movement. In their place we are told we are to have Mr. George Yule. A man who certainly has lived in India, who certainly is a friend to the natives, who represents nothing in England, and no political views in India, unless it be those views which would make Simla cease from being the Indian Capua. It would be very kind and very good of Mr. Yule to allow himself to be put forward on this occasion—but will he? If he do, where will he carry weight? What is the object of making him President? Will it make the National movement of India national, to be presided over by an English gentleman? Why should we submit to a worse tyranny on the part of a little group of Anglo-Indians, than anything we suffer from the Government of India? Let us rouse ourselves and face and overcome the false and degrading spectacle to be presented to the world, that we cannot represent ourselves. Of course we may be grateful to Mr. Hume for having shown us the way, and we need not enquire too narrowly into the motives which actuated him in doing so. But oppression cancels gratitude. Haughtiness provokes distrust. When Mr. Hume goes out of his way to condemn the *Mirror* for speaking fearlessly and courageously at a moment when the public are disgusted with the vituperation and vilipending which stain and disfigure his feeble letter in reply to Sir A. Colvin, it is time for every man to ask himself, What it is that Mr. Hume represents, and why it is that out of his mouth proceed sweet words and bitter? I think Sir, that leaders of our native associations ought to consider these things and announce to Mr. Hume his deposition.

SURJIYA COOMAR CHATTERJI.

Calcutta 16th November, 1888.

State Paper.

No. 1221—1.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India,

To—The Agent to the Governor-General in Council for the Affairs of the late King of Oudh.

Fort William, the 28th March 1888.

Foreign Department.

SIR,—I am directed to reply to your letters cited in the margin, on the subject of pensions for the *nikab* wives, sons, grandchildren and daughters-in-law of the late King of Oudh.

2. After consulting the Government of Bengal, the Governor-General in Council is able to approve of the principles upon which

your proposals in this matter are based, and to accept their details with only slight modifications. The allowances will be fixed grants for life on the usual conditions of loyalty and good conduct. They will be intended to cover all expenses of the several recipients during their lives; and on the death of a pensioner the Government of India will be perfectly free to reconsider and settle afresh the provision, if any, to be made for his or her descendants or family. Further, the Governor-General in Council agrees in your view that the life pensions should be exclusive of, and altogether separate from, the law jagits in which certain members of the family have interests, and the shares to which they may be entitled under the Shia Muhamadan law upon the realisation of the late King's estate.

3. With these general observations I am to convey the sanction of the Government of India to life pensions aggregating Rs. 22,490 per mensem or Rs. 2,69,880 per annum. This sanction will take effect from the 1st April 1888, and will supersede all previous orders on the subject. The detailed distribution of the aggregate sum amongst the classes and individual members of the late King's family is set out in the tabular statement appended to this letter. You will notice that the pensions allotted to the sons differ somewhat from your proposals, and that the pensions are in all cases inclusive of house-rent, and liable to the payment of income tax.

4. The only point on which there is any important divergence of opinion between the Government of Bengal and yourself, and in regard to which the Governor-General in Council has felt hesitation is the provision to be made for the eldest son, Kamr Kadr Mirza. Under the scheme of allowances from the late King's pension which was settled by the orders cited marginally (Foreign Department letter No. 973-I. P., dated the 14th December 1880), this son is at present in receipt of only Rs. 300 per mensem, and he has never enjoyed more, for he was not officially recognised by the late King as holding any exceptional position by right of birth. There is no doubt, however, as to his seniority, and the Government of India agrees with you and the Lieutenant-Governor in thinking that he should be regarded as the head of the

family. His position will thus be much raised, but still it will by no means be on a level with that of the eldest son Hamid Ali, who was alive when Lord Canning's kharita of the 17th November 1860 was written. That letter, which pledges the Government to nothing, refers to circumstances altogether different from those of the present eldest son. After full consideration the Governor-General in Council accepts your opinion that a pension of Rs. 3,000 per mensem will be sufficient for Kamr Kadr Mirza. In addition to this he is granted a sum of Rs. 12,000 for the liquidation, under the supervision of yourself or your successors, of his most pressing liabilities. If, however, it should be found by experience that the case of Kamr Kadr requires more liberal treatment, the Governor-General in Council will be prepared to consider the matter.

5. The question of a title for the eldest son is a point which should be settled. It is certainly objectionable to confer upon him formally the title of "Shahzada" or "Prince," for that style would keep up ideas which are not desirable. I am to enquire whether you think that the title of "Nawab," or "Nawab Bahadur," combined, if necessary, with some territorial designation, might appropriately be conferred upon Kamr Kadr Mirza, and that of Mirza upon the other sons.

6. As regards the place of residence for the members of the late King's family, the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that they may be allowed to live in Calcutta without any special restrictions.

7. In conclusion, I am directed to state that the Government of India appreciates the marked ability and care with which you have worked out this scheme of pensions, and generally your efficient performance of the various duties of Agent to the Governor-General in Council for the Affairs of the late King.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant
(Sd.) H. M. Durand,
Secretary to the Government of India.

EMERALD THEATRE

BEADON STREET.

Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.

Saturday—the 17th November, 1888—
at 9 P. M.

THE SEASON'S SURPRISE,

Nundo-Bidaya,

Masterpiece of pathos and poetry!

Next day—Sunday—

at Candle-light.

Babu Gush Chunder Ghose's
Brilliant Tragedy

BISHAD.

The books BISHAD, price, 1 Rupee, and NUNDO BIDAYA, annas 8, to be had at our Box Office.

M. L. SUR, *Asst. Manager.*

A SPECIAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta
WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,
on Thursday, the 22nd November 1888, at 3 p. m.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD

1. To consider a proposal to present a farewell address to the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava on his resigning the Viceroyalty of India and an address of welcome to the Marquis of Lansdowne on the occasion of his assuming the Viceroyalty of India, and to vote a grant for a suitable cake for each of the addresses.

2. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at a Meeting held on the 2nd November 1888.

JOHN COWIE,
Secretary to the Corporation.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

	Rs.
Amount already advertised	... 60,647
Nawab Syud Ali Khan Bahadur of Shaukhpura ...	... 200
W. J. Simmons, Esq., ...	... 20
Total ...	... 60,867

Calcutta, 22nd Oct. 1888.

Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

ASSAM LINE.

The Company maintains a regular weekly Steamer Service between Calcutta and Debrooghur *via* Goalundo.

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BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,

BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDON JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
 Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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 CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some
 years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder
 Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*
 (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high
 repute among the kindly, as well as acute and
 intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real
 misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord
 Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The
 picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and
 many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as
 an Englishman may find them if he looks
 fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad
 story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder;
 and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen
 could give individual instances of Bengalee
 faithfulness almost unique in history, taking
 all the circumstances of our relation to India
 into account. The Bengalee is generally eager
 for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both
 courageous in the expression of his opinions,
 and gifted to a remarkable degree with the
 power to express those opinions with force and
 precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an
 unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during
 an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in
 force as well as eloquence, any unprepared
 speech he ever had heard made by any mem-
 ber of the House of Commons, if four or five
 members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body
 of men—small for that large province who
 are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young
 Bengal." Some of them are no longer young,
 but grave and aged; some have, in the course
 of years, been highly distinguished for their
 public services and their scientific and other
 attainments. Some have at times been mis-
 represented, and their language misinterpreted,
 so that on its return to them it has amazed
 none more than themselves. Nothing of this
 has been done by the really great administra-
 tors of India. That it has been done, however,
 cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the
 author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu
 Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute,
 as I have said, also an administrator, as the
 reader will see from the title-page to this book.
 A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might
 seek for and not find. His use of the English
 language has astonished many an educated
 Englishman; and the quality of his reading is
 shown by his marvellous power of quotation;
 not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and
 Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in
 science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads,
 and little-known old pamphlets, in the applica-
 tion of which he leaves one wondering—first,
 how he obtained the productions at all, and
 secondly, how, having obtained them, he
 learned to apply them so appositely to the
 subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we
 shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the
 work of the administrator. He comes upon a
 milkman's village, on which he finds fastened
 the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens
 the grip, and re-settles the village, in the
 double interest of Prince and Peasant. And
 all the time he sees everything. The poor
 people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his
 genial and kindly, if also at times, what a
 Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice.
 A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his at-
 tention by the gracefulness with which she
 carries a vessel of water from the river; and,
 though the fair maid and he are divided by
 race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his
 full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admit-
 ted—and he will not be offended with me for
 saying so—that he never meets with a fair face,
 without at least giving evidence of the fact
 that he has eyes to see and a heart to com-
 prehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much
 might be said, and still leave much more to
 say. He meets a missionary on the river, and
 evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to
 pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, how-
 ever, in the bud, and contents himself with
 saying, "So new is preaching here, that the
 simple people said the padre had been singing
 in the street." He meets Catholic and Pro-
 testant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles
 over their disputes, while he astonishes them
 by his command of the English language, and
 even by his knowledge of the Bible—a know-
 ledge, I may add, which is evident in many of
 his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in
 its cage, to his great distress, which is not
 however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but
 of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose
 name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to
 quail, with a noble independence, at some very
 dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell:
 [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one
 that will draw the author very close to the
 great heart of humanity, wherever the words
 are read. Could anything be finer than the
 testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen,"
 ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor
 Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah
 dog. The passage is worthy of the author,
 and of the great mercifulness of the land that
 bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared
 further to find bold and manly language. The
 author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he
 gives John his due, and admits that India owes
 him a great debt. Here is one passage relating
 to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word pic-
 tures—the reader will find some exceedingly
 pretty, and all the more valuable in that they
 are taken from a standpoint purely Indian;
 not English. Where an English artist's mind
 would be filled with European ideas, the mind
 of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class
 of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive
 and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our
 author was placed in a dilemma of a kind
 not unknown to travellers in India, but not on
 that account the less stupid. He wished to
 go by a particular boat, and took time by the
 forelock for that purpose. The fare was at
 first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he
 offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note
 for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from
 the Currency Office, and had been received
 only the day before from another Government
 department." The rest of the story is
 thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth
 something. I can fancy the author laughing
 even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at
 others, and equally well at himself. I shall
 only venture on one more passage; and I give
 it as showing the spirit of the man who dares
 to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*.
 He desired to return to his home in Bengal,
 and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Inde-
 pendent Tipperah, where he had been located
 "some two years." He received the Maha-
 rajah's permission to return home; but still he
 could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this pas-
 sage; the lesson of the immense value of
 courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers
 and ruled. There is a great deal in that sen-
 tence, "*We serve flesh and blood*." The best
 administrator in India is not always the ablest,
 the man whose plans are the wisest as plans;
 but the man who, with plans or without them,
 gives confidence to the people, and confidence
 not merely in his justice, but also in his con-
 siderateness and forbearance. A clever man
 once said that the art of success in India is the
 art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but
 the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in
 any case the art has its limits, and its natural
 collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall
 in the end. But there is one art that never
 fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy
 which, being natural, is not affected by any
 whim or caprice, either of the person who
 possesses it, or of any one with whom he has
 relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once
 more recall, as I easily and very vividly can,
 the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as
 known to me many years ago. I see him, as
 I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra
 Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-
 abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*;
 and I feel and say, with all earnestness and
 sincerity, that among these are men whom
 the Government of India would be wise in
 recognising and winning entirely to its side.
 They are men on whom no really generous
 word—true as well as generous—ever is
 thrown away. I have compared them at times
 with men of kindred occupations at home,
 and I think that they are as a rule by far
 the truer gentlemen in good manners, and
 often in very much more than mere manners.
 May the great God, whose sacred Name they
 use as that of the Father of all, guide them to
 a nobler destiny than any they yet have
 known, and with them, and by them, bless
 their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—*The Indian Magazine*, Mar. 1888.

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Asrukana is a collection of poetical pieces of singular pathos and beauty of expression. It is a series of mournful songs that the reader is here presented with and they must touch a sympathetic cord in every heart that can feel. There is a singular appropriateness in the title of the work, and in its pious dedication to the memory of the husband of the fair writer. *The Indian Nation*.

The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

This is poetry in life

We have read Sumati Guindra Mohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

The tone of the poems is inexpressibly gentle, inexpressibly pure, and inexpressibly tender and affectionate. It is the tone of a world mother.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1888.

No. 349

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

LOVE IN THE LAW :

OR THE JILTED BARRISTER'S ADDRESS.

SAY, Mary, canst thou sympathize
With one whose heart is bleeding,
Compelled to wake from love's young dream,
And take to special pleading ?

For since I lost my suit to you,
I care not now a fraction
About these tiresome suits at law—
These senseless forms of action.

But in my lonely chamber oft,
When clients leave me leisure,
In musing o'er departed joys
I find a mournful pleasure.

How well I know that spot where first
I saw that form ethereal—
But, ah ! 'n transitory things
The venue's not material.

And reading Archbold's practice now,
I scarce believe 'tis true,
That I could set my heart upon
An arch-bold girl like you.

But then, that bright blue eye sent forth
A most unerring dart,
Which, like a special *capias*, made
A prisoner of my heart.

And in the weakness of my heart,
One fatal, long vacation—
I gave a pledge to prosecute,
And filed my declaration.

At first, your taking time to plead,
Gave hope for my felicity—
The doubtful negative you spoke,
Seemed bad for its duplicity.

And then, your blush so clearly seemed
To pardon my transgression,
I thought I was about to snap
A judgment by confession.

But soon I learned, (most fatal truth,)
How rashly I had counted—
For non assumpsit was the plea
To which it all amounted.

Deceitful maid, another swain
Was then beloved by thee—
The preference you gave to him
Was fraudulent to me.

Ah ! when we love, (so Shakspeare says,)
Bad luck is sure to have us—
The course of true love never ran
Without some special traverse.

Say, what inducement could you have,
To act so base a part ?
Without this—that you smiled on me—
I ne'er had lost my heart.

My rival, I was doomed to view
A husband's right assert—
And now 'tis wrong to think of you,
For you're a femme covert.

When late I saw your son and heir,
'T was wormwood for a lover—
For then, the plea of infancy
My heart could not get over.

I kissed the little brat, and said,
Much happiness I wish you—
But, oh, I felt he was too me
An immaterial issue.

Mary, adieu ! — I'll mourn no more,
Nor pen pathetic ditties—
My pleading was of no avail,
And so I'll stick to Chitty's.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

BOTH the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor return to the capital on Thursday, the 29th November. Our criticism of the latter's gazetted movements is justified by the event. Sir Stuart Bayley has revised his programme and will reach Calcutta in time to receive the Viceroy. Lord Dufferin will arrive at the Sealdah Railway Station at 4-30 P. M. The route laid down for the entry to Government House is by the Circular Road, Dhurmtolla, Esplanade East, and Old Court House Street into the Government House by the North-East Entrance.

THE Black Expedition has ended. General McQueen has issued his Farewell Orders, in which he congratulates the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of all corps and departments—"on the thorough manner in which they have carried out the work entrusted to them by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief." He thus summarises the results :—

"The Hasanzai, Akazai, Pariari Sayads, and Tikariwals have tendered their submission in full, in accordance with the terms dictated to them by the British Government. The Machai Peak and Thakot, as well as

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Pokal, the principal village of the Allais, have been visited by the Force, and the construction of roads along the Indus Valley to the Chagarai border and to Thakot from the Agror Valley, gives the power of rapid movement to troops in the future, which will go far towards maintaining the security of our frontier and our friendly relations with the Cis-Indus tribes.

The enemy against whom the Force has had to contend have hitherto considered themselves secure from attack, owing to the mountainous and supposed inaccessible nature of their country; but the Hazara Field Force of 1888 has proved to these tribes that their highest and most difficult passes, hitherto untrodden by the foot of European, can be traversed by any well-organised force.

Much hard work has been entailed both in marching and road-making, and the exposure at high elevations by the Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Columns, and the heat experienced by the River Column during a period of six weeks, without tents, has been most trying.

Notwithstanding the hardships, the Major General is greatly pleased to report

"the cheerful manner in which all duties have been carried out, the exemplary conduct of the Force, and the soldierly spirit which has animated all ranks on every occasion. The almost total absence of sickness amongst the troops, from first to last, showed that the fine condition of the men left nothing to be desired by any commander."

The withdrawal of the troops before the submission of the Chagarais is explained elsewhere. They would not send any *jirgah*. The time fixed for it expired, still no *jirgah* came. They might have been spared this call, for—as it is now said in defence of the march back of our troops—this tribe never gave any cause of offence and there was no *casus belli* against them.

THE Sikkim Field force is also breaking up. It will not be a complete withdrawal though. A small post will remain at Gnatong to guard the road, and a larger one at Guntok, till the arrival of the Chinese Ampa and a definite understanding with the Tibetans.

ONE of our leading "stars" has left the Indian theatre "for good." Last Saturday, Sir Charles Aitchison bade "positively his last farewell" to India and took ship at Karachi. It is to his credit that from his position in life, he rose to be the Foreign Secretary of the Government of India, a Chief Commissioner, the Lieutenant-Governor of an Indian Province and an ordinary Member of the Imperial Council. He brought from his Scotch home some conscience and did not leave it at Alexandria. Accordingly he got into disgrace during the Lytton *regime*. He landed in India the same year that Lord Dalhousie annexed Oudh, that is, 32 years ago, and he left the country to the regret of many Indians who had known him or received favors at his hands.

WE see that the eminent Artist Mr. Archer has come back to Calcutta from Western India. The Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava is also expected in the metropolis next Thursday. Would it not be desirable to secure a portrait of Her Excellency from the hands of Mr. Archer, for the decoration of the Town Hall? We make this suggestion, as we have not heard that any other arrangement has been made by the Committee of the Dufferin Memorial to have her ladyship's picture painted.

THE Municipal Commissioners have decided to address in the coming address out the retiring Viceroy. They have also voted Rs. 2,000 for the caskets. We find the editor of the *Indian Mirror* among the sixteen who have been commissioned to draft the addresses. He was present at the meeting but took no part in the discussion.

MR. ROBERT TURNBULL, the retired Secretary of the Calcutta Corporation, has returned to Calcutta and returns to the Municipality as a Government Commissioner. Mr. Turnbull will have no more complaints on the score of neglect of his numerous native friends since his retirement.

A SHAN has made his fortune by one bound. He sold in Rangoon a ruby for Rs. 80,000. He at first wanted a lac. Never mind! Rs. 80,000 make a Croesus in the Shan country. He may be somebody at Mandalay or Rangoon. Nobody will now shun the Shan.

THE Baboo in charge of the Bulrampore Hospital, Lucknow, will henceforth be styled Rai Bahadur Ram Lal Chuckerbutty, for—what? Does "Baboo" stink?

THE Collector of Hooghly, Mr. G. Toynbee, is engaged on a sketch of "The First Fifty years of the Administration of the District, with

some account of the Portuguese, Dutch, French and Danish settlements." He is the author of a useful monograph on the history of Orissa.

THE six Punjab States of Patiala, Bhawalpur, Jhind, Nabha, Kapurthala and Faridkot have been selected to contribute troops for training for imperial purposes.

A *Ghee* Bill has been decided upon for Bombay. The Government has accepted the measure suggested by the local Corporation for prevention of adulteration of that necessary article of food. More vigorous working of the law is wanted here.

IN the Queen's Bench Division, before Mr. Justice Stephen and a common jury, the Revd. E. G. Roberts, Nonconformist minister, obtained damages of £2,000 against Messrs. Daniel Owen & Co. Limited, proprietors of the *Western Mail*, for articles and letters published in that newspaper imputing gross immorality to the minister.

THE proprietor, Mr. Edward Harrington, of the *Kerry Sentinel* has been fined £500 by Sir James Hannen for contempt of Court—for publishing an article declaring that the Parnell Commission is the creature of the Government and the *Times*. His Counsel advised apology, but Mr. Harrington refused to accept the advice. For a stupid attack on one of the Judges, our "Orator" Surrender Not was sent to jail in spite of his submission to Court.

THE *Times of Ceylon* writes under date the 3rd instant:—

"The police were on the alert all last night, ready to board the S. S. *Hohenstaufen*, having received orders to arrest one of the passengers, who is charged with criminal behaviour in respect of a certain sum of money. It seems that Lord Carrington, Governor of New South Wales, telegraphed to Sir Arthur Gordon that a man had booked his passage by the *Hohenstaufen* under the name of H. P. Seeton, and that he stood charged with criminal misconduct in respect of a sum of money amounting to £6,000, and giving his description, but scarcely any other details. The Inspector-General of Police having obtained the permission of the German Consul to search the vessel, on the arrival of the *Hohenstaufen* very early this morning, Inspector Trevena of the Detective Department, accompanied by a sergeant, repaired to the vessel, and without any difficulty found the man, who was a first-class passenger to Southampton, and arrested him. He had only one trunk with him, which contained very few clothes, and in which two bags were found, one containing £5,950 in gold, and the other £15, also in gold. On being brought on shore, he was at once conveyed to the Police Head-quarters, accompanied by Captain Hansard, where he underwent an inquiry; and from thence he was taken to the Harbour Police office near the Breakwater, where he was found lying dead this afternoon."

The Ceylon paper concludes with the honest and sage remark—"This is a sad termination to this distressing affair." To us, this is a mere abuse of language. Sad the termination may be called conventionally, as involving the loss of a life. As a term of sympathy, the word is thrown away. But this British writer of Ceylon is all sympathy for the rascal, and talks of "this distressing affair." Wherein is it—the affair as distinct from its termination—distressing and to whom? For our part, we should say, it was a characteristic termination of a villainous affair—a fit end of a career of crime. We suppose of course, the fellow committed suicide—sneaking out of the world for fear of facing the consequences of deliberate crime. As for the Ceylon paper, we hope the *Times* does not represent insular ethics.

IN his address to a deputation of the Berlin Municipality on the occasion of laying the final stone of the Hamburg Harbour, the Emperor of Germany

"expressed deep annoyance with the Press for persisting in drawing invidious comparisons between himself and his father. He hoped his family affairs would not be discussed. This extraordinary sally, combined with the Emperor's want of tact in alienating the Pope and Count Taaffe, is the subject of serious comment abroad."

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—The combined ill effects of over-crowding, sedentary occupations and monotony of life are only too well known to those who have to pass the best part of their lives labouring in factories and crowded workrooms. The compulsory confinement weakens the general health and induces chronic constipation, indigestion, and various forms of skin diseases. Holloway's remedies are of priceless value to persons of this class, for they can be used without entailing loss of work, being purely vegetable in their composition, and consequently act without harshness on the most delicate system. The experience of more than forty years proves that no means surpass Holloway's remedies for curing bad legs, bad breasts, piles, and wounds of all kinds.

A PROTEST has been entered by a large number of Members of both Houses of Parliament, Professors, University Lecturers and Fellows and others, in the columns of the *Nineteenth Century*, against competitive examination. They consider it an evil to be avoided, consisting in dangerous mental pressure and misdirection of energies and aims. They make a number of recommendations which may be reduced to—

1. The appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the subject of official appointments by examination.
2. The appointment of Committees representing the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and other educational bodies, to inquire how different kinds of examinations react upon education.
3. The appointment of a committee representing the signatories of the protest to inquire into the methods of appointment by corporations, hospitals, and private firms.
4. That a request be made to the masters of public schools to inquire into the influences resulting from the examinations to which boys are subjected, and to suggest what substitutes should be employed for some of the examinations."

ON Thursday the 22nd, a salvo of fifteen guns announced the assumption by Mr. David Miller Barbour of the Financial Membership of Council. The previous Saturday, the Hon'ble Philip Perceval Hutchins, C. S. I., of the Madras Civil Service took upon himself the execution of office vacated by Sir Charles Aitchison.

THE Librarian of the Shakespeare Memorial, at Stratford-on-Avon, has requested the Secretary of State for India for copies of every edition of Shakespeare's plays and every book relating to the poet published in any Indian language.

A SCHEME is afloat for a Public School in the Panchmari sanitarium, in Bombay, for the poor Anglo-Indian youth.

IT is said the Nizam, with a small following, made a minute inspection of the building vacated by Colonel Marshall. The object is still a mystery.

A EURASIAN in Madras bequeathed by his will Rs. 20,000, for the annual relief of the poor of his class out of the interest. He further enjoined that the sum was to be funded as "Murray Memorial Fund." It is not said how the executors intend to utilize the money or whether they propose public subscriptions in aid of the Fund. Is there to be a Murray Dole?

THE Secretary of State has accorded his sanction to the appointment of Professor Forrest and Director of Records in Bombay.

NAWAB KHURSHED JAH leaves Hyderabad tomorrow on a visit to this city. Some of his people have already entered appearance.

WHEN country spirit manufactured in British India, upon which excise duty has been paid, is imported by sea into Calcutta, and the rate of excise duty at the port of exportation is lower than that chargeable in Calcutta, a differential duty will be levied by the Excise Superintendent of Calcutta at one rupee per gallon of spirit London Proof.

THE Test Examination of private students from the Presidency and Chota Nagpore Divisions, for the next Entrance Examination will be held on Tuesday, the 11th December.

AN addition has been sanctioned to the Municipal bylaw of the town, namely,

- "No. 59 A. When no separate arrangements are made for the removal of refuse, resulting from any business, trade, or profession, which refuse is of a description that ought to be removed, the Commissioners will charge the person carrying on such business, trade, or profession the same fee for its removal as if it had actually been deposited in the public streets."

This is, we believe, to generalize the fee and to make it payable all round like the night soil rate in the new law. In other words, this is an additional tax on business trade or profession hitherto exempt. This only saves domestic refuse.

IT is all very well for us to complain of Anglo-Indian trying to divide our Mussulman brethren against us. Our worst enemies, we fear, are of our own household. We badly want leaders of moderation and discretion throughout the country.

In the rioting case at Burwai, in the Holkar Territory, about thirty prisoners were discharged, in the absence of evidence, but the rest of the accused were, after a patient trial, for being members of an unlawful assembly, rioting, hurt and grievous hurt, convicted and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and to pay fines. The *Eastern Herald* hears that the Hindus, no sooner the discharge of the Mahomedans was ordered, sent a telegram to the Maharaja Holkar complaining of the action of the local authorities. We are glad that our Mhow contemporary condemns this foolish precipitancy and exhibition of animus:

"This was a most unwise step for the Hindu inhabitants of Burwai to take when the case was being judicially tried by a special officer. Of course the Maharaja knows how to treat such communications. From all accounts we know that no Hindu is at any disadvantage by the release of the Mahomedan prisoners. Why should they grumble then?"

AT Patiala, the Viceroy thus announced the acceptance of the offer by the Native States towards defences of the Empire:—

"The Government of India has not failed to give its earnest attention to the offers by native Princes, and, while knowing them to be as sincere as they are generous, has endeavoured to work out a scheme by which they might be turned to advantage in a manner both gratifying to the Princes themselves and of material value to the Empire, I believe we have succeeded in working out some scheme, and this Darbar seems to me to afford a fitting opportunity for its public inauguration. The Government of India does not think it necessary nor in all respects desirable, to accept from the Native states of India the pecuniary assistance which they have so freely tendered, but in one very important particular we wish to enlist their co-operation. The armies of the Native States are strong in numbers, but at present of various degrees of efficiency. Among many of them there exist warlike traditions and fine soldierly material, while some already contain regiments well worthy to share in any active operations which Her Majesty's troops may be called upon to undertake. What we propose, in a few words, is that we should ask these Chiefs who have especially good fighting material in their armies, to raise a portion of these armies to such a pitch of general efficiency as will make them fit to go into action side by side with the Imperial troops. For this purpose some extra expenditure will be necessary, as troops in the present day, to be thoroughly fit for service, require very complete arrangements in the way of arms, transport, equipment, and organisation generally; but we shall in no case ask any Native State to maintain a larger force of this description than it can well afford to support, and we do not doubt that under these conditions the Chiefs, knowing that the Government of India has no desire to take undue advantage of their loyalty, will be glad of the opportunity of making good their words and providing troops for the defence of the Empire. I trust that the Chiefs selected will, in any case, regard the acceptance of their offer as an honourable distinction, while those whose armies it is not found possible to utilise in the same manner will understand that if they cannot usefully contribute to the fighting strength of the army, they can in other ways render service equally meritorious and equally sure to win the approval of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress.

To help these Chiefs in the work of maintaining the troops selected for service, a few English officers will be appointed as advisers and inspectors. These officers will have their head-quarters at some centre point in British territory, and will visit the several States in turn. Capable native drill instructors will also be lent to the Native States from our own regiments. The selected troops will be armed with breech-loading weapons, presented to the several States by the British Government. These will be Carbines for the Cavalry and Snider Rifles for the Infantry. In addition to this each Punjab Chief will receive from the British Government a battery of four guns.

It is hoped that in this way, while each force will remain purely a State force, recruited in the territories of its Chief, and serving within them, the troops composing it will gradually be made so efficient as to enable the Imperial Government to use them as part of its available forces to meet any external danger. A number of the States of the Punjab and others elsewhere have, I am happy to say, expressed their full concurrence in this scheme, and arrangements will be made to carry it into effect as far as they are concerned. I cannot but feel that I have been very fortunate in being able to announce before I leave India the inauguration of this measure, which will, I hope, help to show the world in what estimation Her Majesty the Queen-Empress holds the Native States of India, and how she appreciates the conspicuous loyalty and attachment of their Chiefs."

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Viceroy started on his down tour on Thursday the 13th, with the regretful farewell of the Himalayan capital, and arrived at Lahore the next day in the evening, where at the Railway station, he was received by the Lieutenant-Governor, and other Civil and Military officers and the Nawab of Bahawalpur and the Rajas of Nabha and Faridkot. The Municipality also welcomed him by an address in Urdu. A large crowd had gathered outside the station. Having replied to the address, Lord Dufferin drove to Government House along roads decorated with bunting and lined with troops. The day closed with a dinner party and a crowded *Conversazione* brilliant with the costly dresses

of the Rajas and Reises. The Viceroy, as usual with him, passed an hour and an half pleasantly in receiving and conversing with, those introduced to him. On Thursday four more addresses—three from the Mahomedans and one from the Sikhs—were received and replied to. The same day Lady Dufferin declared the Lady Aitchison Hospital open. After an address by Lord Dufferin, Lady Dufferin distributed prizes, one *pardanashin* closely veiled is reported to have been present at this distribution. The Viceroy next visited the Veterinary College and presented diplomas to some thirteen students. In the afternoon, the Nawab and the two Rajas previously mentioned paid visits separately to the Viceroy. Then the Viceroy at a very simple ceremony invested Nawab Imam Baksh Khan with his K.C.I.E. ship.

Friday the 16th was Lady Dufferin's day at Lahore. A deputation representing all-classes of the Punjab presented her an address signed by 50,000 persons, for her efforts in the cause of the Indian people. The women of Gujranwala and the *pardanashins* of Lahore followed with their addresses. After returning the visits of the Chiefs, the Viceroy left in the evening for Patiala.

The Patiala festivities commenced the next day the 17th with the reception of the Lieutenant-Governor at 7-30 in the morning. The Viceroy arrived at about 11, and was welcomed by the Maharaja accompanied by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Rajas of Jhind and Kapurthala, the chief officers of the State, and many European and native gentlemen besides. The Viceroy was then conducted under an escort of cavalry to the Camp erected for the guests opposite the Moti Bagh. Here some 200 tents ran in parallel rows, the two principal avenues ending with the Viceregal and Lieutenant-Governor's shamianas, with all conveniences for the distinguished party and the guests. At one o'clock, amid the firing of salutes, the playing of the National Anthem, the Maharaja and the Rajas of Jhind and Kapurthala began to pay visits to the Viceroy, who received them with due honors in a beautifully fitted up tent called the Viceregal Reception-room. In the afternoon there was a Durbar in the Fort. Here the Maharaja was presented with a marriage gift of Rs. 5,000, a pearl necklace, a robe of honor and silk stuffs. It was at this Durbar that Lord Dufferin announced the policy of his Government for the utilization of the troops of the Native States for the defence of the Empire. The day closed with illuminations and fireworks. There was a dinner too in the general mess-tent. The Viceroy proposed the toast of the Queen-Empress, and the Maharaja proposed the health of Lord and Lady Dufferin. An Evening Party by Lady Dufferin brought the entertainments of the evening to an end.

The next (18th) morning many people rose in the camp to be apprised of the danger they had escaped overnight. Lady Helen Blackwood's tent had caught fire and it and everything in it been burnt to ashes. Fortunately, the night was still and the fire could not spread. Lady Helen had seen the fire start near the fireplace and saved herself by a timely flight. The fire is attributed to some defect in the fireplace. At midnight the Viceroy had noticed the canvas wall near the chimney smouldering. It was of course promptly put down. Later on it had caught fire again.

In the afternoon the Lieutenant-Governor and the Viceroy returned the visits of the Maharaja. Sir James Lyall accepted of the Maharaja the usual peshkash—a bandil or turhan—and in his turn presented a golden clock, a gun and a sword as marriage gifts to the Maharaja.

The Viceroy, in his return visit, touched and remitted *nuzzurs* from the high officers of the State, but accepted a *khillut* from the Maharaja.

Here too Lady Dufferin bore her mission in mind and laid the foundation-stone of the Zenana Hospital. The cost of the building has been estimated at Rs. 30,000. The annual cost is given at Rs. 10,000.

Later in the afternoon there was a parade of the State troops under command of Sirdar Bakshi Gunda Singh, the Commander-in-Chief. The Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor in company of the Maharaja drove to the saluting point, and the troops marched past very creditably, specially the 1st Regiment of Infantry.

A gymkhana closed the day and the festivities at Patiala. The sports consisted of line-cutting, tent-pegging (in which the Maharaja himself took part) elephant and camel races, acrobatic feats, &c.

Lady Dufferin left Patiala the same evening for Agra and the Viceroy the next morning for Aligarh, which His Excellency reached at 4 P.M., on the 20th. He was then taken over to Sir Ahmed's College. Here he was assailed by an address. After replying to it and inspecting the College and partaking of afternoon tea, he joined the special and

reached Etawah at 10-10 P.M., and left for Cawnpore and Allahabad at six in the morning of the 21st.

IN his reply to the Berlin Municipal deputation, the Emperor sharply noticed the contumacy of the Press in drawing invidious comparisons between himself and his father, and he hoped that his family affairs would not be matter of public comment. The aspiration of Kaiser is not to be disregarded, and we may expect, for a period at least, a reaction of loyalty in the German press.

The Emperor probably meant more than he said. He must have had on his mind the invidious comparisons, instituted all over Germany, between his father and grandfather. Whatever his want of tact, he possesses discretion enough not to bring all the domestic linen into the highway to wash. He could not well in *propria persona* in public arraign his own mother, as he would virtually have done had he noticed the publication of the late Emperor's *Diary*, it being no secret that the Dowager Empress Victoria connives at that publication. There was another reason for imperial reticence. The matter was *sub judice*. The book, after having been pooh-poohed as apocryphal by the organs of Government and of Prince Bismarck, whose reputation has suffered by it as much as his master the Emperor William, was the subject of a prosecution against author and publisher.

The gravamen of the offence of the late Emperor's *Diary* lies in its disclosing the true author of German Unity and, of course, the true hero for German devotion. It was the late Emperor, who, first of all the statesmen of the country, understood the political problem and saw the opportunity for solution in the success of the war of 1870. It was the Crown Prince of that year who forced upon Emperor and Chancellor (Bismarck) the solution and made them submit to his clear vision, lucid reasoning, and persistent patriotism. At least, that is the meaning generally put upon the *Diary* published.

We quote the most significant passage, namely, the entry on the 3rd September 1870, after the surrender of Sedan and the capture of Napoleon. The Crown Prince wrote:—

"Bismarck came to see me at Donchery. We retain Alsace in the German administration. The idea of the federation of the empire and the re-establishment of the Imperial dignity had scarcely been thought of. I noticed that he was only inclined to it conditionally, and I took care not to press it upon him, although I was convinced that it must come about. Events are leading towards it, and circumstances cannot be more favourable than they are owing to this victory. On the 30th September I spoke to the King about the Imperial question which was maturing. In the meantime negotiations with the German States have already commenced. The King does not think this question imminent. He referred to the remark of Du-Bois-Reymond that Imperialism was antiquated; there would be in future in Germany only the King of Prussia and the German Duchies. I replied that the three Kings of Saxony, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg force us to take the lead with the Imperial title. On alluding to Napoleon his opposition at last became weaker."

THE *Times* has eaten humble pie. Sir John Pope Hennessy has triumphed in his suit against the Thunderer. It apologises and pays costs, and a nominal verdict by consent has been recorded. Sir John is now free to return to his own in the Mauritius, where a hearty welcome awaits him.

JOY HURRY ROY writes to a contemporary:—

"The Statutory Civilians are men educated in India. They have not received an English education, and are no better in point of education than the generality of the members of the Uncovenanted Service. It is the general opinion that they are an utter failure. Their heads have been turned by writing C. S. after their names. They are the laughing-stock of the public. Being Bengalis they associate with Bengalis. The pleaders get round them beautifully; they say to their faces that not one of the pukka Civilians can write English equal to their decisions, nor know the law so well. It is ridiculous to see how they are flattered, and with what an idiotic smirk they swallow the bait and decide cases in favour of the flatterer. They generally give musical parties in which native bajawalahs play on all kinds of noisy instruments, and there is plenty of singing of a kind by dancing girls; in short, their tastes and sympathies are with Bengali vakils and mukhtears. One or two of them adopt English customs, playing lawn-tennis and other games once or twice a week, but they do not generally make friends either with the English or their countrymen. The sooner they are abolished the better for the country."

Fe, fa, fum, I smell the hand of an Englishman! It is no use disguising. As the boy Yacoob Khan, at Herat where he was Governor, cried to Haji Vambery, penetrating through his character of a holy Durwesh, *By Allah! thou art a Frank*. The internal evidence is irresistible. The language and the logic as well as the sentiment are all of Britain—British—not to say of Anglo-India—Civillian. Here

is an unmistakable stroke: "Being Bengalis they associate with Bengalis." And here again: "They generally give musical parties in which native bajawalas play on all kinds of noisy instruments,—like the *sitar*, *esrar*, *savangi*—and there is plenty of singing of a kind by dancing girls"—singing which comes home to their bosoms. They do not pay exorbitantly for Italian and German music which they do not understand, and vieing with one another to appreciate, or look charmed by, vile Rossini and Mayerbeer. It is a pity this young gentleman has no soul for melody, or he would have been conquered by

Tlang, Tlang, Tat Tlang the *Tubla* rings!

With Kôil notes the *Buji* sings!

In short, their tastes and sympathies are with Bengali vakils and muktears. In fact, they are only Bengali Baboos. The gravamen of the charge against them is that, with all their Western learning they have imbibed, they are Indian gentlemen still. The objection to them is that they have not been denationalised, and disdain not to associate with their fellows. The head and front of their offence has only this—and nothing more.

The Statutory Civilians are to be congratulated upon such evidence in their favour from the enemy. Little did the writer suspect what a certificate he was giving these Baboo Civilians. Before closing, indeed some suspicion crossed his mind and led him to stultify himself. He again discloses himself undeniably where he speaks kindly of one or two black sheep who have adopted English customs, and writes himself down an ass saying that the great majority are desperate Ishmaels or gloomy misanthropes who keep themselves aloof from human kind.

There are Statutory Civilians and Statutory Civilians, and to say that they have all failed is a shameful perversion of the fact. They have failed who could not be expected to succeed under any circumstances—the scapegraces of noble houses and young hopeleses of parents assiduous in attendance at the ante-chambers of officials with a weakness for *dallies* and dinners seasoned with abject flattery. They have succeeded who ought to—the men of education and proved working powers. It is true that they were educated in India. But their education is genuine and not Indian at all, except in the accident of place. The proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof. The case of the Statutory men as made out by one of them, Babu Baroda Charan Mitra, in the *National Magazine*, is in evidence, showing high powers of reasoning and presentation. The last number of the same periodical contains a fine article evincing research and Oriental studies, by another gentleman of the much-abused body, Babu Nanda Krishna Bose. And Babu Ashutosh Gupta lately sent to the Asiatic Society a similar paper.

THIS—in the *Indian Planter's Gazette* of the 20th instant—is the style in which the wiser and more gentlemanly Anglo-Indian journalists are relieving themselves of their pent-up feelings at the appointment of a third drop of Asiatic leaven to the mass of British dough on the High Court Bench:—

"The High Court opened on Friday, when the new Native Judge, Dr. Gura Dass Banerji, took his seat. All the legal comets have returned from their visit to the old country. Whatever happens to the rice crop, one may be sure that this vakil-ridden country will produce an unfailing crop of litigation during the coming year."

—the Planting interest of course not being behind-hand in supplying its quota commensurate in extent with the length and breadth of its pretensions and the dignity of Magna Charta and the voluminousness of the Statutes at Large. In thinking of the new appointment, the writer is naturally enough reminded of India as a miserable vakil-ridden country. But there was little excuse for forgetting that this is a barrister-jockeyed country. It was barrister-jockeyed before it was vakil-ridden. It was ridden to bleeding ribs and spavined backs by British lawyers in the shape of judges, advocates and attorneys, before any vakil was heard of in the East.

This writer is content with the dispensation of Providence by which a galaxy of comets periodically make their appearance in these skies, to sweep with their long bushy tails the gold mohurs and rupees of the East, to spend them beyond our participation or ken. It is the vakil brood—the distinctively native nuisance—that stinks in his nostrils.

THERE is always something provided for idle hands. Here is the season's mine sprung upon the receivers of the depreciated Rupee. "The Art of Patinage to be exemplified during the Season 1888-89, as it has never before been attempted in India." Grammar and all, of course. We have no idea of what this Art may be. Is it akin to the fine Art of Grooming, which, according to the Proverbial Philosophy of the Syce world, is as profound as the boundless Ocean? For our part, we would prefer the known *pâté* to the unknown delicacy *pâtin*. The Prospectus is headed "Opening on the Calcutta Maidan of the Columbia Elite Roller Staking Rink." What a rolling up of nouns! Supposing some of the nouns to have an adjectivity for the nonce,

which Columbia is it? there are so many—and what of Columbia? And is Elite a proper name or the French word? If the latter, what has it in the connection? Is the "roller" of the *Elite* or the "rink"? Is it a call to the *Elite* to roll themselves on the Maidan? Then thank God, we are not of the order. It is *Elite* all over. For the bill goes on to speak of the "fashionable, elite, and social circles!"

This over *Elite* business hails from that land of unco-respectability, Australia. The showman has commenced with dividing Indian society into a new system of caste, of which the English are the Brahmans, the Europeans the Kshettriyas, the Eurasians the Vaisyas, and the Natives the Sudras. We quote the new *Brahma verbatim*:—

"Owing to numerous requests, we have decided to set apart Monday and Thursday evenings, and Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and afternoons, for the exclusive use of the English population of Calcutta. At other afternoon and evening sessions, the better classes of Europeans, Eurasians and Natives, will all be heartily welcomed."

LORD DUFFERIN is now on his way to Dacca. It is rarely that the highest functionaries of the Government of India stray to the older abandoned capital of Bengal. In 1824, the good, genial and classical Bishop Heber visited it when the city had recently recovered from the alarm of a surprise by the Burmese. In 1829, Lord Combre went there. And other bishops have followed for confirmation and other Generalissimos for inspection.

Provincial Governors could not avoid one of the chief cities, situated, as it is, in the heart of the Eastern Districts, but few Governors-General or Viceroy have been there. The best remembered visit is that of Lord Northbrook. The old city, now revived a good deal by British peace and enterprise and the general prosperity under the present régime, will doubtless not stint its liberality in giving the Viceroy a proper reception. The Zemindars of the Division have hurried to the call. Preparations are already in progress. We cannot, however, admire the judgment or taste shown in one notable arrangement. The matter has already set the city in a blaze. The feeling is well expressed in the article in our leading columns "The Intended *Contre-temps*—at Dacca." Dacca seems to labour under a fatality. She can never rise superior to petty intrigues on public occasions. The Europeans themselves are no better than the natives, while the leading authorities fail to lead for want of tact. Was there ever such an insane proposition as to lead Lord and Lady Dufferin to the house of a joint family of Shaoos—to impose on the unsuspecting Representative of the Empress and the highest Lady in the land the hospitality and society of, if not actual gin-shop-keepers, at any rate, money-lenders of the publican caste? It is all very well for shallow reformers and irresponsible radicals to laugh at the distinctions of caste. But caste, in one form or another, reigns everywhere. In India, Caste is a great fact—perhaps the greatest. There is no escape from it here, as is in other societies. Even here, a family may, by generations of possession of property and its generous use, or by the genius or conduct of its members, rise to some sort of social consideration, though nobody will still eat or drink with it, or accept its hospitality, or form marriage alliances with it. The family in question has yet to acquire that limited *entrée*. It is enough that, since the destruction of the old families of Dacca, the aspiring Cockneys dub themselves "Baboos." They are a prosperous tribe, no doubt, absorbing all the substance of the old Nawabs and Meers and Mirzas. They are Shaoos for "a' that;" "for a' that and a' that."

This question has in Dacca, Moorshedabad or Patna or even Burdwan a far greater importance than it would have in a mushroom place like Calcutta—the capital of the British traders in the East. In the older cities and seats of aristocracy and former power, these points of precedence and social position and eligibility are subjects of angry controversy and sources of bitter discontent. Nor were the officials formerly so radical and reckless as they are now often disposed to be. One illustration to the point we may mention. It is within living memory that the last of the old hereditary Nawabs of Dacca, Shums-ood-Dowla Bahadoor, was miserable to the last for want of a state palki or palanquin. He could have purchased fifty, but the Judge and Magistrate would not allow him the privilege to use any. His brother had the distinction, but Shums-ood-Dowla as a young Nawab had plotted against Government and been confined in Fort William, and though he was finally allowed to succeed his brother, he was not permitted to sport the fraternal vehicle. And very properly, too. So particular was Government in those days, when the traditions of how the British had acquired the country had not been lost. Bishop Heber himself, the soul of honour and overflowing with the milk of human

kindness, and fresh from the atmosphere of England, thoroughly appreciates the Government denial. The spirit in which these distinctions of our country were regarded by Europeans in India, is placed beyond cavil or doubt by the fact that the Bishop, in noticing the subject, goes so far as to question the right of Nawab Shums-ood-Dowla's brother and predecessor himself to claim the *palki*. It was an usurpation. And yet, the Bishop was most courteous to the Nawab and even tenderly kind.

Does any of the European gentlemen of Dacca, who are a party to this business, think that the brothers would not have before the mutinies been allowed to ride a *palki* or a carriage?

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1888.

THE VICEROY'S FAREWELL TOUR.

WE have already given a summary of the Viceregal movements. In the Punjab, Lord Dufferin's reception was enthusiastic, while the scenic effect of the vast multitudes of well-dressed stalwart men in picturesque costume, who gathered to do the retiring Viceroy honour, was superb. The Punjab is no shoddy or shabby genteel country. Its very mob has no vulgar look. It is the country of the shawl, the finest woollen in the world, and of the long ample-sleeved coat and flowing garments, and of the massive turban—the grandest head-dress conceivable. It is famous for its silk and goldthread embroidery. Above all, it is the Land of the Kohinoor. There brave men and fair women alike delight to sport jewellery on their persons. All these elements of external impression were displayed in profusion on the occasion of the Viceroy's farewell visit to the Province, and combined to make it one to be remembered. In keeping with their love of, and taste for, personal decoration, the people are more impressible and altogether more human, so to say. Without the philosophical imperturbability of the rest of the Indians, they are more lively and impulsive—somewhat like the French, without their wit and purged of their conceit, and more genuinely hearty. Accordingly, they received their favorite Viceroy with open arms as it were, and whether at Lahore or at Patiala, under cover or in the open air, they hung round him with evident attachment.

Addresses were presented to the Viceroy by the Lahore Municipality, by the Sikh people, and by the Mahomedans, besides similar compliments to Lady Dufferin. The various associations of Islam vied with one another in bidding his Lordship a cordial farewell, with many expressions of their respectful approval of his policy and of thankfulness for the benefits of his administration. There was a downright reality in the forms observed on some of these occasions, which is rarely seen at these high stage "palavers." Instead of the cur and dried addresses, in irreproachable English of the officials, purporting to convey the sentiments of the people most of whom do not know English, the Viceroy allowed them to approach him in their own tongues. He had studied these tongues in order to be able to communicate direct with the people. The Mahomedans seized the golden opportunity, which they had not enjoyed since the downfall of the Mogul Empire, of addressing the Viceroy in Persian. It must have been a distinct relief to them to escape from the Procrustean bed of English speech. Only in the flowery periods of Persian eloquence, could their thoughts and sentiments find ample room and verge enough. Such

addresses contain the genuine mind in the appropriate dress. Thus, unlike the stern severity of British official literature, one of these documents bristles with quotations from Persian and Arabic poets. Lord Dufferin was equal to the occasion. He replied to the deputation of the Anjuman-i-Islamia in Persian—a noble language which lends itself gracefully to the expression of political messages. That was surely an event in British Indian history. These addresses were characteristic in matter as in manner. As befitted the frontier Province and a martial race, they cordially supported the military policy and diplomacy of the present administration and the measures undertaken for strengthening the frontiers. The Mahomedans of course dwelt with fervour on the Viceroy's sympathy for them. But it is creditable to both sides that they could not allege a single measure of distinct partiality towards the Mussulmans. Lord Dufferin in his reply to the Central Mahomedan Association said:—

"I have always aimed at securing community of sentiment and interests between the members of the different great nationalities who inhabit India, and discouraging the continuance of race animosities, and I shall esteem it the greatest work of my Viceroyalty if my policy has, as you indicate, contributed towards bringing about these desirable results."

In Patiala, there were grand doings. The occasion was doubly interesting in consequence of the marriage of the Maharaja, to do honor to which auspicious ceremony the Viceroy and his Lady and his Lieutenant and their suites and other European officers, Civil and Military, and the neighbouring Rajas, went. At the Durbar held by His Excellency, Mr. Tupper, Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, announced a complimentary marriage gift of Rs. 5,000 from the Government of India. An honorary dress presented to His Highness was also laid before him at the Durbar. This being accepted and removed, His Highness made a neat little speech to his distinguished guests. The Viceroy, in his reply, took advantage of the occasion to announce the Government scheme for accepting the offers of military help by the Native Princes.

The Viceroy left the Punjab for the N. W. Provinces. At Alighur, the reception was scarcely less enthusiastic. A crowd of notabilities awaited on the railway platform his Excellency's approach, and conducted him to the Mahomedan College. It was a noble place—the monument of the energy of Syed Ahmed Khan, supported by the devoted exertions of such lieutenants as Raja Joy Kissen Das in Upper India, and Nawab Mehdi Ali Khan and others in Hyderabad. Here, before a vast concourse of Mussulmans, the Viceroy was plied with a long rambling address of a decidedly party political character but of little coherency, evidently intended to inveigle him into some expression which might be turned to account. It was a vain effort. Lord Dufferin kept his assailants at bay and, deftly avoiding controversial topics, disappointed them with a fine lecture on self-help in education. Indeed, the Viceroy had little choice. How could he meddle with so rich a production surcharged with the wisdom of Aligarh refined by its Anglo-German schoolmaster. The document contains, for instance, such extraordinary propositions as this—

"The promotion of English education among Mahomedans cannot be conducive to their commercial and agricultural prosperity."

In fact, the whole is a scarcely veiled denunciation of High Education and the cultivation of European languages by the people of this land as the surest path to economic ruin and political disaffection—to commercial bankruptcy of individuals and revolution

in the State. Such is the wisdom of the Sage and the Serpent his Gooroo.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT ON TRIAL— AT SERAMPORE.

DR. LIDDERDALE'S impeachment of Dr. Mitra's administration of the Serampore Municipality, meets with scant support from the district officials. Not that there are no defects, and even grave ones in the sanitary condition of Serampore, but the existence of them cannot justly be held as a failure in duty on the part of the Chairman. Either he is not provided with sufficient funds, or with sufficient legal powers for effectively dealing with them. In a few instances, it is true, the administration of the Municipality appears, in the opinion of the district authorities, fairly open to adverse criticism, but the Chairman personally is not to blame for this. He was not properly assisted. As Mr. Duke, Sub-divisional officer of Serampore, observes:—"It is not to be expected that he can himself go about very much or do much inspection. This duty is not always expected of a Chairman where he is ably seconded by a Vice-Chairman whose especial business it is. In this Municipality, he used not to be.....so seconded and in consequence the town had got into an unsatisfactory condition." This Vice-Chairman has since been removed, and he appears to have so thoroughly neglected his outdoor duty that Mr. Duke wonders why Serampore did not present even greater appearance of dirt and untidiness under the circumstances. Mr. Toynbee, the Magistrate of Hooghly, would seem to make too much of the fact of the Chairman's non-residence. Indeed, if the appointment lay with him, there would be no chance for it in the circumstances of the case. He remarks on this point:—"The fact of the non-residence of the Chairman was brought by me to your notice when forwarding his election for confirmation, and the responsibility therefore rests with Government in this matter." It is as well that the law in this respect is as it stands at present. By retaining in its own hands the power of confirming the election of the Chairman, the Government has acted wisely, or these elections would be quite at the mercy of the subordinate officials. Mr. Toynbee's view of the law in regard to the Vice-Chairman's tenure of office, has a practical bearing on the present case. "The Vice-Chairman," says he, "being elected by the Commissioners *without any* power of *veto*, the Chairman can hardly be held responsible for his shortcomings. This is, I consider, a grave defect in the present Municipal Act." Dr. Mitra would thus appear to have been placed at a great disadvantage, by the action of the Municipal Commissioners in giving him a lieutenant who would not work. We know of a worse case, in which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were at cross purposes all through, until one of them parted company.

At any rate, Dr. Lidderdale should have spoken on better information, particularly when he meant to speak such damaging things. "I think, it is a pity," remarks Mr. Toynbee, "that Doctor Lidderdale did not give the Chairman an opportunity of meeting or explaining away his charges before he sent in his report. It is as easy to find fault as it is difficult to manage a town like Serampore. A little less fault-finding and a little more advice and encouragement would have done more good." The scheme of self-government is but just introduced in this country, and it could only be maintained if officials were to bear themselves towards it in the spirit

of Mr. Toynbee. While, however, commending him for apparently bearing kindly feelings towards the experiment, we cannot pass over without comment any expression of opinion which he has formally placed on record. Mr. Toynbee says: "The fact remains that, as predicted by Lord Ripon, the Executive Administration* has suffered from the introduction of Local Self-Government into Moffussil Municipalities. It is foreign to the nature and habits of a native to be out of door all the morning, supervising the Municipal staff, and without such supervision they can never be kept up to the mark. The Moffussil Municipalities cannot afford, as Calcutta and Howrah can, the services of a highly paid European Executive." Again: "On the whole question my opinion agrees with that of the Sub-Divisional officer of Serampore that, as regards relative or comparative charges, Doctor Lidderdale's indictment fails and that as absolute charges though true they are greatly due to want of funds and to the absence of that effective *outdoor* control which will I fear never be possible to Bengalees." We are aware of no such prediction ascribed to Lord Ripon. For the rest, this is a sweeping generalization indeed. Why, we entirely fail to see what there is in the nature of the Bengalees or their habits to make outdoor inspection impossible to them for all time. Mr. Toynbee's experience must be very limited to be sure, or he would not retain such a prejudice against us. We do not know if he includes the native Subordinate Executive Service and the Public Works Service in his comprehensive characterisation, but surely a man of his age and position in the Service must have come across scores of native officers who have proved themselves quite equal to duties demanding the most laborious outdoor inspection. There is, in truth, nothing in native character incompatible with energetic work. Their lethargic appearance itself is not universal as Englishmen might think from the sight of pampered Baboos and Baboolings in town. Finer specimens of little supple-limbed, active humanity are not to be met with than in Bengal, among our people. For the rest, their indifference and inactivity is wholly due to their enforced unemployment, in the unequal distribution of patronage. Give them opportunities, and you call forth the latent forces that lie dormant for want of exercise. It is their fate rather than their fault, that explains the general appearance of apathy that must have led Mr. Toynbee into a hasty judgment.

The Sub-Divisional officer's report is, indeed, an able document. While it goes into great details and is marked by thorough grasp of the minutiae of executive administration, in discussing general principles it never falls into Mr. Toynbee's errors. Mr. Duke's letter would be a useful study for those who have to deal with the details of sanitary administration, and at the same time he takes a very sensible view of the broad aspects of the subject. Some of the administrative difficulties we have to contend with are, in reality, involved in the very nature of representative government, while there are others which are the creation of our municipal legislation. "It is not perhaps very reasonable," says Mr. Duke, "to expect that the conduct and measures of a representative body can be greatly in advance of those of the electorate, and what public opinion exists on sanitary questions, even what opinion there is as to the connection between disease and insanitary conditions in such a place as this, you are already aware." His conclusion is perfectly fair. "At the same time

I would point out that considering the great area and limited income of the municipality and the legal difficulties with which energetic action is hedged, the Commissioners hardly deserve sweeping condemnation. Relatively at least the state of Serampore is much better than that of several of the neighbouring towns, and I even think that as the Chairman points out, it is not worse than that of the larger and more important municipality of Hooghly. Relative tests are perhaps the only ones which are quite fair, considering the constitution of the municipalities and condition of the people." Native Chairmen have already difficulties enough to cope with to entitle them to be spared such unjust and sweeping generalization as Mr. Toynbee has passed on them. We are perfectly at one with him when he indicates the causes which necessarily make a non-official Chairman's position weak and uncomfortable. "Native Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen also undoubtedly find more difficulty in enforcing the Municipal regulations than European Executive officers do, owing partly to the strong party-feeling which exists in every town, and partly to the unpopularity which such a course entails. The Native papers, petitions, and all kinds of obstruction and annoyance are freely made use of to vilify any Chairman or Vice-Chairman, who really tries to do his duty."

Having said all that might justly be urged in support of the Chairman, we reserve for another occasion some remarks which we consider to be due in justice to the other side of the controversy. We are particularly sorry for the sake of the Chairman himself, for instance, that he should have given a handle to his critics by the view he has taken of the genesis of cholera. But of this, more fully hereafter.

THE INTENDED *CONTRE-TEMPS* AT DACCA.

Dacca, November 14.

Dacca is in ferment over an extraordinary arrangement for the reception of the Viceroy. Some interested wire-pullers have so managed the thing between themselves, with the result that His Excellency will be conducted to a stranger's residence for an evening's entertainment.

The Dacca Club is going to entertain the Viceregal party at a ball and supper at the private residence of the Brothers Rup Lal and Raghu Nath Dass. This has been settled, unless, indeed, the Viceroy, in keeping with the dignity of his exalted position, decline to give effect to that part of the programme. These Dass brothers, I believe, are not unknown to you and most of your readers. They are Hindu bankers of one of the lowest castes. They are moneyed men, no doubt, but many such moneyed men there are in Dacca, with this difference that the money of these brothers has not, up to date, borne any considerable share in the promotion of public or private charity or of works of utility. Rup Lal is ready enough to promise. At his son's marriage in 1882, he promised to permanently light the town with electric lights—for nothing short of this would look well, and gaslight is an old tried thing in Calcutta; but woe to us! the same dim and distant kerosine lights, as of old, yet feebly illuminate us. We shall hear of electric lights no more, as our large-hearted Nawab has undertaken to introduce gaslights in this town. The younger brother Raghu Nath, not to be outdone, took the breath out of Dacca by the heroic promise of Rs. 30,000 in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. But alas! the Rs. 30,000 is not yet forthcoming, and will, it is believed, never see light.

Sir Steuart Bayley is one of the universally beloved and most popular Lieutenant-Governors we have ever had. On the occasion of his late visit to Dacca, a reception committee was formed. Raghu Nath was elected a member thereof, and Rup Lal separately

written to for subscription. What do you think was the result? The liberal brothers did not subscribe a pice, and, what was more, Raghu Nath withdrew his name from the committee altogether.

Such is their public spirit and devotedness to public good, such their generosity and patriotism! in consideration of which and for which only, the members of the Club are going to honour them, (for such the brothers call it, under inspiration of their wire-pullers), by inviting the Viceregal party to their place. But who is responsible for the scandalous arrangements? No wonder, as some local newspapers report, that our worthy Nawab was opposed to it as he well might be, for the Governor-General of India is not a trifle to be taken to any and every man's place, least of all, to the private residence of a man whom he has never seen, nor known, nor even heard of.

Again, the two Rajah Bahadurs whose opinions also ought to carry much weight in this connection, are, it is said, opposed to it on the same and additional ground of principle. It is now an open secret that some wire-pullers, who had some private object to gain by raising the Dass brothers in public estimation, have succeeded in inducing the authorities in charge to come to this universally condemned arrangement. Mr. Hopkins, the Divisional Commissioner, was then a new comer to a new land and so was Mr. Anglis, the then District Magistrate, and remembering what these mighty magicians the wire-pullers have done in past times, we are not at all surprised at their success with the unsophisticated officials. The place of Messrs. Rup Lal and brother, so far as I remember has not yet been trodden by the Europeans of the station, either at dinner or ball. It is still fresh in the memory of the people of Dacca, how disdainfully were the brothers treated, when, during the aforesaid marriage, they proposed to Mr. Rampini, the then District Judge, a dinner and ball. Mr. Rampini's feeling was shared by all the Europeans, and the idea of the dinner and ball at once fell through. And why did Mr. Rampini and, following him, all the Europeans of the station do so? The solution is very simple. They knew the brothers through and through, and therefore considered it beneath their dignity to go to dinner and ball at theirs and with them. But, alas! the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, the Empress's representative in the land, and his wife the good Marchioness—the first lady in the Empire—go to a ball at the brothers' and probably with them.

DISCIPLINE AND MORAL TRAINING IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

Dated Calcutta, the 24th September 1888.

From---Nawab Abdool Lutef, Bahadoor, C.I.E.,

To---The Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, General and Revenue Departments.

I am much obliged for your request, inviting a full expression of my opinion upon the question of discipline and moral training in schools and colleges, now under the consideration of the Government of Bengal, in consequence of the Government of India's letter No. 10---384, in the Home Department, dated the 31st December 1887.

2. I have expressed elsewhere some of my views upon the subject, and the Mahomedan Literary Society of Calcutta also have, by their letter dated the 31st July last, under my signature, placed their corporate views upon the same question before the Government of Bengal. The views expressed by the Society are in full accord with my own; but there are points upon which I am glad of a further opportunity of dwelling at greater length. I have devoted the labours of a life to the advancement of education among my countrymen, more specially amongst my co-religionists; and the subject now under discussion is consequently one which commands my deepest interest and most anxious consideration.

3. Considering the fact that the native members of the Education Commission in their totality were in a minority of 1 to 2 as compared with their European colleagues, that not a single representative of the orthodox Mahomedan community (as distinguished from the "advanced" school) had a seat therein; and that there was perhaps only a single representative of the orthodox Hindu community, it is not strange that a majority of the members of that Commission should have decided to recommend that the existing rules prohibiting religious teaching in Government schools

be applied to all primary schools wholly maintained by Municipalities or Local Boards, in the hope that home studies and the increase of aided schools with no restrictions as to religious or moral teaching would do much in the direction of religious instruction.

4. In common with many orthodox members of both the Mahomedan and Hindu communities, I venture to disagree with the proposal of the majority of the learned members of the Commission, on the following grounds :--

First--Because a course of school instruction effects a great economy of time and labour for teachers and taught alike as compared with private teaching.

Secondly--Because the curriculum of Indian schools is so exacting that a boy finds it hard to make time at home for other studies without affecting his prospects at school. That, indeed, has always been the educational difficulty with the Mahomedans. They can not give up their religious instruction ; at the same time the secular curriculum of the Government schools and the aided institutions under Hindu management ignores the necessity of the former altogether, and is so high that it is impossible for any student to go on simultaneously with both. The Hindus for the most part give up their domestic religious education and confine their attention to the secular instruction given in the schools ; and for this, amongst other reasons, they are almost always at the top of the list. The Mahomedans prize their religious instruction more highly, and consequently fail to keep abreast of their Hindu countrymen in scholastic competition. In some cases Mahomedan boys elect to run an even race with their Hindu competitors by neglecting the religious instruction ; the result is promising from the secular point of view ; they turn out clever men in their own way ; but it is no wonder if they turn out to be irreligious and deficient in discipline and in reverence. This gives rise to dissatisfaction in the minds of the elders of the community, and room for the appearance of those old suspicions against English education which it has cost me a life's labour to remove from the minds of my co-religionists.

And thirdly--Because I am afraid the time is still very distant when my co-religionists in Bengal will have acquired sufficient wealth, energy and organization to start aided schools of their own. The ground is to a great extent occupied by Christian missionary institutions which are in possession of grants-in-aid, and by schools under Hindu management. At the same time, religious and moral education are so necessary for the best interests of society, that it is extremely undesirable that one or other of them should be postponed for an indefinite period, awaiting the time when the Mahomedans should have made sufficient progress in material prosperity and aptitude for organisation.

5. It is therefore proper and necessary that existing public schools should be fully utilized for the imparting of religious instruction to the extent and in the manner recognized by the despatch of 1854. This has been pointed out by one of the dissenting members of the Education Commission, who gave instances in which religious instruction had been given by teachers to Mahomedan boys in Government schools on the Bombay side ; but there has been no attempt yet to my knowledge by any religious community on this side of India to work the provisions of the despatch in that direction. The text of the passage in chapter IV, paragraph 178, of the Education Commission's Report alluded to above, has been quoted in paragraph 5 of the Government of India's circular under discussion ; and in connection with the same topic I take the liberty of transcribing certain passages from chapter VI, paragraph 321 of the same report :--

"Religious Teaching in Colleges.--Government having deliberately adopted the policy of religious neutrality, there is no religious teaching in the colleges managed by the Department of Education. The grant-in-aid system is based upon the same policy, and it might therefore seem that the subject of religious teaching in aided colleges has no place in the report of this Commission. Nor would it, if the question had not been raised by some of the witnesses whether another policy than the present be not equally consistent with the religious neutrality of Government colleges--the policy, namely, not of excluding all religions, but of giving equal facility for instruction in them all.....The argument adduced in favour of such a policy seems generally to be that the minds of students are so filled with their secular studies that religion drops out of view and ceases to influence them, and that home influence has been found in practice too weak to counteract the anti-religious, or rather non-religious, influence which exclusive attention to the subjects studied at college is exerting.....The remedy proposed is that Government should employ teachers of all prevalent forms of religions to give instruction in its colleges, or should at least give such teachers admission to its colleges if their services are provided by outside bodies. We are unable to recommend the adoption of any plan of this kind....."

6. Although the Commission do not agree with the suggestions above made, I venture to think that they are, with special reference to the condition of the Indian Mussulmans, well worthy of consideration and acceptance. In my humble opinion, the Government, whilst maintaining its attitude of strict religious neutrality, should afford facilities for the formation of special religious classes in

Government schools for different communities who may so desire. At the outset, the attitude of Government should not be permissive only, but inviting and encouraging as well. The Government officers need only arrange for the time being set apart for religious instruction, but the teaching might be carried out by private and not State agency. In Bengal, the Moshin Fund might furnish the nucleus for the fund out of which teachers of the religion of Islam might be paid. The Mahomedan community will hail with delight such an appropriation for any part of the income of that splendid endowment, and they might be left to raise any further funds as might be required from time to time to endow such teacherships. If such facilities were afforded to the followers of all religions, and their application limited to the students whose guardians desired their boys so to be instructed, no charge of violation of religious neutrality could be brought against Government. The appointment, removal, &c., of the religious teachers would be in the hands of a Mahomedan Committee nominated by Government ; the latter, through the head of the local institution, retaining the power of excluding an individual teacher whose moral and personal character might render him undesirable as an occupant for such a post.

7. Where, as in many places, there is a special provision for teaching Urdu or Persian to Mahomedan boys, the same teacher might be allowed to be subsidised out of Mahomedan funds for giving extra lessons beyond school hours in religion and morals to the Mahomedan boys. This would help the boys simultaneously in the acquisition of the said languages. Where there is no such provision, the religious instruction will have the additional advantage of being the only assistance available to the boys for the acquisition of Urdu or Persian, it being obvious that elementary religious instruction to Mahomedans in India must be conveyed in one or other of the said languages.

8. As regards the schools wholly maintained by Municipalities or Local Boards, I am prepared to go further, and to ask that not only should the same facilities be given there as in Government schools, but that the local bodies should be authorised to spend money for such purposes. A broad line of distinction has been always drawn between the action of Government as such and the action of such local bodies ; hence their action will not be construed into any violation of religious neutrality on the part of Government. The local body would be doing things in the same way as a voluntary association might have done. The Government might retain a power of veto on such arrangements for securing to all religions a fair dealing out of the common funds.

9. I do not at all agree with the recommendation of the Education Commission that a moral text-book be prepared, based on the fundamental principles of natural religion,--*firstly*, on the ground that natural religion is an unacceptable term to every firm believer in a particular religion like Islam, based upon express revelation. Those who found their faith upon such a basis are not prepared to join in an eclectic search amidst the tenets of the many religions prevalent in India, and selecting therefrom some parts as natural and rejecting others as artificial. To them the whole of their faith and every part of it is the special message of God, in which there is nothing to pick and choose. *Secondly*, on the ground that there will be no security that a text-book prepared by a mixed Committee may not contain principles and expressions prejudicial to the faith of Islam. If in a purely literary course the Calcutta University could see no objection in selecting as texts for their examinations writings like Addison's *Spectator*, No. 94, and Scott's *Talisman*, full of the foulest abuse of the prophet of Islam, what hope can the Mahomedans have of absolute neutrality in a compilation which obviously must be prepared under the superintendence of men of the most earnest religious convictions ? In this connection, I beg to invite attention to the passage (given in the Appendix) from my memorandum of the 28th June 1877, drawn up at the invitation of Lord Lytton, with reference to the labours of the Committee which had been appointed by His Lordship to consider the question of University text-books.

10. For the above reasons I am against the compilation of a natural religion moral text-book. But should the compilation of such a thing be sanctioned as an unavoidable necessity, I sincerely trust that in such case it will be made subject to the unanimous approval of a thoroughly representative Committee of the followers of the various religions prevalent in India.

11. To my mind it is impossible to separate morals from religion, and I have therefore very little faith in the efficacy of secularised moral instruction as distinguished from religious instruction. From my point of view the only effective way for teaching morals to the young is to teach them the religion in which they have been born and bred, and which their guardians wish them to follow. It is for this reason that I have addressed myself to the task of discussing the otherwise apparently irrelevant question of religious instruction, on a reference as to the proper means for imparting moral instruction to the *alumni* of our schools.

12. The last point upon which I wish to dwell is that relating to the debating clubs and societies of students. I appreciate fully the great assistance which such organisations, properly conducted, give to the cause of education by encouraging habits of reading,

writing, and speaking among the boys. They encourage habits of thought, and are great helps to the cause of education, when confined to topics which are within the scope of the boy's study and comprehension—mostly the subjects contained in his class books. But there ought, to my mind, to be a safe limit to the subjects of discussion in such places. It is essential, however, that the subjects should be such as are within the level of their minds. To allow a boy of fourteen or sixteen to discuss the fundamental principles of the social, political and religious fabrics is as dangerous a proceeding as to let him play with destructive weapons of whose use he has no clear conception. There is a time and age for all things, and neglect of this essential doctrine is sure to lead to harm to the mind and body of the experimenter. I object to such discussions distracting the attention of even older students from the proper subjects of their studies, and I trace much of the irreverence and laxity of discipline amongst the rising generation to the unrestricted license of thought and speech created by these associations in their usual style of business. The Hindus have been

the greatest sufferers, as their best men readily confess, and the Mahomedans are also slowly perceiving the growth of the same evil.

13. It is impracticable to superintend all organizations of the above description; but much may be done by teachers in schools giving the right direction to students, by forbidding the discussion of social, political, and religious subjects in the societies and debating clubs which are convened in the school premises in the presence and with the assistance of the teachers, or with their knowledge and permission. The boys would thus be not only directly benefited to that extent, but be also furnished with a standard for judging of the propriety, from a student's point of view, of the subjects for discussion in other places.

14. In conclusion, I beg to add that the sentiments I have expressed above are fully shared by the orthodox Mahomedan community in general, and I deem it my duty to place them prominently before the Government in order that this view of the questions under consideration may not be overlooked when arriving at a decision upon the same.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION UNDER SECTION 23 OF
ACT IV (B. C.) OF 1876.

Three vacancies having occurred in the representation of Wards Nos. 13, 16 and 17 by the resignation of Dr. E. W. Chambers, the disqualification of Dr. R. C. Sanders, owing to his absence from Calcutta for a period of upwards of six months consecutively, and by the demise of Babu Pran Nath Dutt, respectively, it is hereby notified that the rate and tax-payers of the aforesaid Wards must forthwith proceed to elect a Commissioner for each of the aforesaid Wards. As only one Commissioner has to be elected for each of the Wards, each person qualified to vote will, under the concluding portion of Section 13, be entitled to only one vote.

The elections will be held on Saturday, the 29th of December 1888, between the hours of 9 A. M. and 6 P. M., at the Municipal Office. At a date not less than 21 days before the day fixed for taking the poll, a voting paper printed in black ink for each of the Wards will be forwarded by post to each registered voter.

The voter on receipt of this voting paper may—

- (1) Return it by post duly filled up to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked "Voting Paper, Ward No.—"
- (2) Return it by hand to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked "Voting Paper, Ward No.—"
- (3) Present it himself at the polling station on the day of the poll, or
- (4) Entrust it either open or in a closed cover at his option, to any person whom he may select, for delivery at the polling station on the day of the poll.

Any Voter who, owing to miscarriage of the Post or other mishap, may not have received his voting paper by the 14th day before the poll, may apply at the Municipal Office personally or by agent for a duplicate, putting in a written statement that he has not received any voting paper.

Voting papers on different colored paper from the original and duplicate papers referred to above will be provided at the Municipal Office at the time of the poll, and any voter who has not already voted, or who may wish to cancel his previous vote, may notwithstanding that he has already filled up an original or a duplicate voting paper, appear at the poll and fill up a paper in the presence of the polling officer, and such vote or votes shall alone be held valid and shall cancel all previous votes.

JOHN COWIE,
Secretary to the Corporation.

Dated 16th November 1888.

EMERALD THEATRE

BEADON STREET.

Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.

Saturday—the 24th November, 1888—
at 9 P. M.

Our most successful Tragedy of Babu Grish
Chunder Ghose,

B I S H A D.

Next day—Sunday—the 25th November,
at Candle-light.

THE SEASON'S SURPRISE,
Nundo-Bidaya,

Masterpiece of pathos and poetry!

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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
 BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDUDDIN JAH BAHADOOR,

(the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal, Behar and Orissa.)

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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "far maid of Sonargoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the far maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however pardoned. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to quirk, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country word-pictures—the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, and took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "*We serve flesh and blood*." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his consideration and forbearance. A clever man once said that the art of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the pen is great—the pen of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of any one with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kinto Das Pal, Dr. Manendra Lal Sengupta, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1888.

No. 350

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

TO A BIRD.

BIRD of the wild and wondrous song,
I hear thy rich and varied voice,
Swelling the greenwood depths among,
Till hill and vale the while rejoice !
Spell-bound, entranced in rapture's chain,
I list to that inspiring strain !
Spread the forest's tangled maze
The thousand choristers to see
Who mingled thus their voices
In that delicious minstrelsy
I search in vain each pause
The choral band is still

'T is but the music of a dream—
An airy sound that mocks the ear—
But hark again ! the eagle's scream,
It rose and fell distinct and clear !
And list—in yonder hawthorn bush,
The red bird, robin, and the thrush !
Lost in amaze I look around,
Nor thrush, nor eagle there behold—
But still that rich, aerial sound,
Like some forgotten song of old
That o'er the heart has held control,
Falls sweetly on the ravish'd soul !

And yet, the woods are vocal still—
The air is musical with song—
O'er the near stream—above the hill—
The wildering notes are borne along !
But whence that gush of rare delight ?
And what art thou ? or bird or sprite ?
Perched on yon maple's topmost bough,
With glancing wings and restless feet,
Bird of untiring throat, art thou
Sole songster in this concert sweet ?
So perfect, full, and rich each part,
It mocks the highest reach of art.

Once more, once more, that thrilling strain !
Ill-omened owl, be mute, be mute !
Thy native notes I hear again,
More sweet than harp or lover's lute ;
Compared with thy impassioned tale,
How cold, how tame, the nightingale !
Alas ! capricious in thy power—
Thy "wood-note wild" again is fled—
The mimic rules the changeable hour,
And all the "soul of song" is dead !
But no—to every borrowed tone,
He lends a sweetness all his own !

On glittering wing, erect and bright,
With arrowy speed he darts aloft,
As though his soul had ta'en its flight,
In that last strain so sad and soft,
And he would call it back to life,
To mingle in the mimic strife !
And ever, to each fitful lay
His frame in restless motion wheels,
As though he would indeed essay
To act the ecstasy he feels—
As though his very feet kept time
To that inimitable chime !

And ever to the rising moon
Full orb the trees above,
The enchanting tune,
No wakes through all the grove ;
That soothes, in care's despite,
The weary watches of the night ;
The sleeper from his couch starts up
To listen to that lay forlorn—
And he who quaffs the midnight cup
Looks out to see the purpling morn !
O ! ever in the merry spring,
Sweet mimic, let me hear thee sing !

GO FORTH INTO THE FIELDS.

BY WM. J. PARODIE.

Go forth into the fields,
Ye dwellers in the city's troubled mart !
Go forth and know the influence nature yields,
To soothe the wearied heart.

Leave ye the feverish strife,
The jostling, eager, self devoted throng ;—
Ten thousand voices, waked anew to life,
Call you with sweetest song.

Hark !—from each fresh clad bough,
Or blissful soaring in the golden air,
Glad birds, with joyous music, bid you now
To spring's loved haunts repair.

The silvery-gleaming rills
Lure, with soft murmurs, from the grassy lea,
Or, gaily dancing down the sunny hills,
Call loudly in their glee !

And the young wanton breeze,
With breath all odorous from her blossomy chase,
In voice low whispering 'mong the embowering trees,
Woos you to her embrace.

Go—breathe the air of heaven,
Where violets meekly smile upon your way ;
Or on some pine-crowned summit, tempest-riven,
Your wandering footsteps stay.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

Seek ye the solemn wood,
Whose giant trunks a verdant roof uprear,
And listen, while the roar of some far flood
Thrills the young leaves with fear !

Stand by the tranquil lake,
Sleeping 'mid rocky banks abrupt and high,
Save when the wild-bird's wing its surface break,
Chequering the mirrored sky ;—

And if within your breast,
Hallowed to nature's touch, one chord remain,
If aught save worldly honors find you blest,
Or hope of sordid gain—

A strange delight shall thrill,
A quiet joy brood o'er you like a dove ;
Earth's placid beauty shall your bosom fill,
Stirring its depths with love.

O, in the calm, still hours,
The holy Sabbath hours, when sleeps the air,
And heaven, and earth, decked with her beauteous flowers,
Lie hushed in breathless prayer ;

Pass ye the proud fane by,
The vaulted aisles, by flaunting folly trod,
And, 'neath the temple of the uplifted sky,
Go forth and worship GOD !

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

BOTH the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor returned to the capital on Thursday. The entry of the lieutenant was private. The chief was accorded an enthusiastic welcome. The railway station was decorated and the whole route to the Government House and the houses adjoining it were crowded with spectators to have a last look of the retiring Viceroy. On the Grand stair-case there was a goodly array of officials—Civil and Military—Nawabs, Maharajas, Rajas, Rai Bahadoors, Khan Bahadoors, and other gentlemen—European and Native—and, what is more, ladies—European and Asiatic. The Viceroy arrived [punctual to the time and, as is his wont, had a kind word for everybody he met and shook hands with all.

LORD LANSDOWNE reached Aden on Tuesday the 27th November. His had not been all smooth sailing. Leaving Suez, the steamer experienced heavy weather which increased to a southerly gale on Monday. The new Viceroy and his party were, however, safely landed.

His Lordship arrives at Bombay on Monday and leaves that capital on Thursday. He does not stop at Allahabad. Captain Burn, A. D. C. to the Viceroy, has gone up to Bombay to await his Lordship's arrival.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the North Western Provinces has gone into camp.

AN expedition under Wissmann for the relief of Emin Pasha, in the interior of Africa, leaves Berlin immediately.

A ST. PETERSBURG telegram—of the 26th Nov.—says that notwithstanding the death of Colonel Prejevalsky at Vernoe, the Russian exploring expedition to Tibet will proceed on its journey.

IN the Moylan appeal, Mr. Pugh, on behalf of the Recorder of Rangoon, applied to the Chief Justice last Saturday for a Special Bench. The request was a novel one and unprecedented, the Chief Justice thought, and my lord could not take upon himself the task of deciding the question. He applied to his colleagues of the Court and on Tuesday last announced the decision of the whole Court. There will be a special bench of three Judges sitting every Saturday commencing from to-day at 11.

THE Eastern Bengal State Railway prosecuted the Chitpore Gate Inspector W. C. Wilson, the shed gunner J. Peter, a carter Khaju and a

contractor Bholanath, the first two for theft and the last two for abetment, of eleven bags of linseed. The case proceeded for some time before Assistant Magistrate Palit of Sealda. To save themselves costs of a prolonged trial, Wilson and Peter waived their right to be tried as British-born. The trial was nevertheless a lengthened one in time and money, and at last on Tuesday the Magistrate sentenced the two British-born to two months' rigorous imprisonment each and the carter to one month. Next day, there was an application to the District Magistrate to admit the first two to bail pending an appeal. Mr. Bolton at once granted the prayer. Counsel had no difficult task to persuade him. For the judgment—grammar, argument and all—was the most eloquent and convincing pleader for the convicted. It is well Mr. Palit revisits England on 3 months' leave. We only hope, he will utilise his opportunities there better this time than before.

PREPARATORY to his installation as District Grand Master, Lord Connamara was, on the 23rd November, in the Banqueting Hall, Madras, installed a Worshipful Master, in the presence of 35 installed Masters.

THE Odessa physician, Dr. Gambaleia, who claims to have found a preventive against cholera, is coming to this country—to perfect his method. He is due in March. What is his cue, we wonder. The bee in Dr. Koch's bonnet had the shape of a comma. He could not get over it. It buzzed so incessantly in the ears of the other experts of the German commission which came to this country to investigate the origin and nature and treatment of Cholera, that at last they thought they saw it. Is Dr. Gambaleia's tormentor a semi-colon or a dash? The poor colon is at a discount now-a-days. At any rate, we hope he will succeed in putting a period to the present uncertainty. We wish, but can hardly hope, that he will come with an open mind.

THE Sanskrit Title Examination for 1889 has been refixed for Monday the 25th February and the following days.

IN 1889, about 27,000 chests Patna Factory and about 30,000 Ghazee-pore Factory Opium will be brought forward for sale by public auction.

ORDERS have issued for the closing of Chanua and Shartha, in Balasore, as Customs Ports.

THE Bengal officers consulted—the Commissioners of Divisions and the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta—have reported against any amendment of the Factory Act XV of 1881. There are 90 factories in Bengal—of these 32 in the 24-Pergunnahs, 31 in Howrah, 8 in Calcutta. Since the operation of the Act, there have been 1,561 accidents, only 73 proving fatal.

THE examination for admission to the Mechanical Apprentice Department of the Sheebpore Civil Engineering College for the next sessions, is announced for the 21st and 22nd January 1889. Applications enclosing certificates of age (between 15 and 17) and of good conduct must be made to the Principal by the 10th January. The College Surgeon must certify to the physical strength, fitness for manual labor, and eyesight of every applicant before admission. There will be in February next no vacancy on the free list for Christian apprentices but on the reduced list (Rs. 5 per mensem) there are expected as many as nineteen. The Native reduced fee (Rs. 2 per mensem) list shows only five vacancies. The Board of Visitors are empowered to fill these vacancies.

EARLY in the year, a Despatch was received in this country from the Secretary of State, for more expeditious transmission home of official reports, and for a better observance of the prohibition against their being sent to individuals or public bodies in England, except through the intervention of the India office. This order No. 87 dated the 15th December 1887, only emphasised the order of Sir Charles Wood of 16th December 1861. We give elsewhere the Despatch of 1861, with the covering letter of the India Government to the local Governments.

WE quote from the Gazette the following rules for payment of rewards in the interest of the Salt monopoly.

"I. In any case in which a penalty or confiscation has been ad-

judged by competent authority under any law for the time being in force for the administration or protection of the salt revenue, the Board of Revenue, or the undermentioned officers of the Salt Department, may grant, in such proportions as they may think fit, to any person or persons who may have contributed to the conviction of the offender or to the seizure of the property so confiscated, a reward not exceeding the proceeds of the salt confiscated, *plus* the amount for which any other article confiscated in the same case may sell, *plus* the amount of any fine imposed therein.

Provided always that the aggregate amount of the rewards thus granted in any one case shall not exceed—

If the award be made by the Board of Revenue	Rs. 500
Ditto ditto by the Commissioner of Salt Revenue, Madras Presidency	200
If the award be made by a Deputy Commissioner of Salt Revenue, Northern Division	100
If the award be made by an Assistant	25

Provided also that the proceeds of confiscated salt shall be taken to be the amount of the duty leviable thereon, whether the salt be actually sold for consumption or destroyed as not fit for consumption.

II. In any case in which any person or persons may have been convicted of an offence against the salt revenue, but in which no penalty or confiscation may have been imposed or realized, or in which any person has performed any service of special merit in respect of the prevention or detection of any act of salt smuggling or of any offence against the Salt Laws, rewards may be granted as follows:—

By the Board of Revenue to an aggregate amount not exceeding	Rs. 200
By the Commissioner of Salt Revenue, Madras Presidency, to an aggregate amount not exceeding	50
By a Deputy Commissioner of Salt Revenue, Northern Division, to an aggregate amount not exceeding	25
By an Assistant Commissioner of Salt Revenue to an aggregate amount not exceeding	10

III. The Commissioner of Salt Revenue, or the Deputy Commissioner with the sanction of the Commissioner, may incur at his discretion an expenditure, not exceeding Rs. 100 in each case, for the employment of informers, or for any other purpose connected with the prevention or detection of salt smuggling, or of any offence against the laws relating to salt.

IV. Proposed rewards and expenditure exceeding the sums above set forth, should be reported for the previous sanction of Government."

MR. JAMES MONRO, who could not agree with Sir Charles Warren, has been called in to fill the place of Chief Commissioner of the London Police, vacated by Sir Charles. We predicted as much.

A RUSSIAN four cent loan has been issued for one hundred and twenty-five millions of gold roubles—for repayment of the 1877 loan.

SIR HENRY ARTHUR BLAKE, just appointed Governor of Queensland, has been obliged to resign the office—because the Queenslanders do not want him.

FATHER BALLERINE, the director of the *Civiltà Cattolica* newspaper, has presented to the Pope 5,000,000 lire in gold, being the offering of the Catholics of India and Australia to the Holy Father.

THE Governor has sanctioned the arrangements for the tramways in Madras city.

HERE is sensation indeed for the most canine appetite and truth into the bargain, for those who care for it:—

"The *Frankfurter Zeitung* publishes a letter from an American correspondent, who says that the town of Raleigh, in North Carolina, is threatened with desertion by its inhabitants, who have been thrown into a state of alarm and anxiety by continuous subterranean noises which make themselves heard above all ordinary sounds. The chief noise resembles that of rushing streams, as if masses of water were seeking new channels within the earth. The ground seems hollow to those who walk in the streets; loaded wagons passing cause a loud echoing rumble, as if the town was built over a vault. Naturally, the noises are more audible at night, and many persons have been so terrified that they have quitted the town. No subterranean explosions, have yet been heard, and those who have listened to the noises by placing their ears to the ground or to a wall declare that they resemble the sound made by a powerful rush of gush or steam. The most accepted explanation is that some internal changes are in progress in the neighbourhood, but borings and excavations which have been carried out have not furnished any data to support any view of the origin of the mysterious sounds."

We hope an expedition of experts will soon proceed to the scene of the terrifying acoustic phenomena for the purpose of ascertaining the cause. The Governments ought to take up the matter. So good an opportunity for advancing our acquaintance with Nature it were a pity to lose. Science might come upon a rich windfall.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THERE is no longer any hope of the *Vaitarna* turning up. Accordingly, a Court of Inquiry has been ordered. A mere matter of business formality. An inquiry where there is no knowledge! There is just this much information available to the Court that the vessel was last heard of off Porebunder and she was laden with 900 to 1,300 passengers. What became of this host and of the vessel's crew none can tell, or will. Their friends have now realised the full import of the dread designation of their bottom. The *Vaitarna* has taken them over her namesake water—the Indian Styx. They have passed the Rubicon into that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns. The language of the gentle Bard of Sheffield on the total disappearance, in the same Indian Ocean, of the *Blenheim* man-of-war, Admiral Sir Thomas Trowbridge in command, applies to the ill-fated party on board the *Vaitarna*, as to those who were last year on the *Sir John Lawrence* on her last voyage:—

Their native soil no more they trod,
They rest beneath no hallow'd sod;
Throughout the living world
This sole memorial of their lot
Remains,—They *were* and they are *not*!

AFTER a good deal of haggling, Messrs. Streeter & Co. have been empowered to work the Burma Ruby Mines on payment of Rupees four lacs annually by way of rent to Government and one-sixth of the profits. Such is the last announcement by telegraph. But the previous telegram was to the effect that the farm had been offered up to free competition without reservation of share in the business, and that one firm was prepared to take it on a yearly payment of twelve lacs of Rupees. If nobody came forward with a higher bid, the farm would naturally be given to the 11 lacs bidder. Of course, if there was any doubt of the party's ability to pay, security might be exacted. How comes the farm, therefore, to be now given to Messrs. Streeter & Co. on a different basis, and at a reduction? We are not prepared to suppose that, on such a commercial transaction, Reuter wired to India a false news. We can imagine no motive for so doing. We confess we have a sentimental leaning to the Streeters. The world is indebted to Mr. Streeter for advancing its taste. As for the Ruby farm, there is no doubt, that his firm has been at it from the outset, and it is but just that it should get it, if practicable. But what means this continual shuffling? There is evidently something rotten somewhere in Denmark. And now for a plain question on the final settlement, if there is to be a finality to this ever-dragging shifty business—How are the profits to be calculated?

POOR Ceylon! she is not big enough for a considerable event—even a great *Golmal*. She must doubtless feel the disadvantage of a little ricketty even though lively and vain sister before a tall brawny broad-shouldered and deep-chested brother. Just now, the noise of the Congress must have led her to an undesirable comparison. She has not room for a vast political agitation—for a great *paninsular* organization. Or else, the ambition is not wanting. Not to be behind the mainland, they have rechristened their Agricultural Society—the Ceylon National Association, and are proud of it. Perhaps, some of the islanders, demoralized by the Continental contagion, give themselves unnecessary swagger. Then they utilised their organization for a sturdy opposition to the project of an extension of the railway. No wonder, the officials down there are not better disposed to them and their national business than those up here are to us and ours. The Governor, in his despatch on the railway extension question, sneers at the opposition of "the somewhat grotesque clique, the so-called Agricultural Association"—thus quietly declining to take notice of change of designation. The inference is that the Agricultural pretence is contemptible enough, and the National banner is a huge humbug. To your guns, Young Ceylon! Surely, the question of national representation is not in the Island beset with the difficulties of the Continent.

MR. CUNNINGHAM having retired from India, the Health Society has secured the services of Dr. McLeod as its President. As a Past Health Officer of the town, the Doctor will speak more authoritatively about the deficiencies of our municipality. The Municipal Commissioners,

in the meantime have been better armed by the new law for more useful and extended work of sanitation. The eyes of the world are now on Calcutta, and we trust the Corporation will now fulfil all legitimate expectations, and there will be no more friction between it and the Government.

THE gathering at Harrihar Chhatra has been taken advantage of by the Hindus of Behar to form, out of the different Dharma Sabhas of the Province, a Central Hindu Dharma Sabha of Behar, under the Maharaja of Durbhanga as President, the Maharaja of Hutwa as Vice-President, and Baboo Paramessur Narayan Mathe of Mozufferpore as Honorary Secretary. A great meeting was held under canvas. We regret that the Maharaja of Durbhanga suddenly took ill and could not attend to take the chair, as had been arranged. The Maharaja of Hutwa presided and opened the proceedings. Lala Joogal Kishore, who represented the views of his master the Maharaja of Durbhanga, and Pandit Ambika Dutt Vyasa, the Pauranic Hindu Revivalist of Behar, addressed the meeting at great length to its evident satisfaction and good humour. All went merrily as a marriage bell, if inconveniently too as an Indian marriage. A *mela* within a *mela*—at any rate, a *majli* in the midst of a *majma*—the large pandal put up for the occasion could not provide accommodation for the vast crowd that flocked in a continual stream into the grounds.

FOR magnificence of "cheek" pure and simple, commend us to the Anglo-Indian official—of the genus Celestial! Having administered the country as a family preserve for a long time, they have come to regard everything as subordinate to their interests. Law and Courts are mere instruments to serve the great purpose. The only hopeful element is that there are Civilians and Civilians. Was there ever such impudence as that of Mr. Ross, C.S., late Registrar of the Madras High Court? Accused by his friend Morgan of taking advantage of friendship to commit rape on, and adultery with, Mrs. Morgan, on at least six different occasions, this gentleman was, after a regular judicial inquiry by a Magistrate of his own Service, committed on the lesser charge of adultery. He was leniently dealt with, even though the victim of an ungallant gallantry was the European wife of a European. A jury of his peers in the High Court let off the Registrar, thinking perhaps that he was sufficiently punished by the disgrace and the expenses of the defence. The consideration was wasted on the scotched Serpent. Instead of being grateful, and letting Time the great Healer give salve to his wound, while he exerted himself, by a course of good conduct, to recover character, the vain man nursed his sore to keep it open. He became a regular grievance-monger, and tried to reopen his case in another form if possible. He had evidently vowed vengeance against the wronged husband as the author of his disgrace. He applied for permission to prosecute him for perjury. A sympathetic Civilian Judge weakly gave it. Fancy the situation of the poor husband, whose domestic peace had been destroyed and who had further been ruined in substance in the effort to obtain that costly article, British Justice. Luckily for him, it is not all Civilian rule, pure and unmixed, throughout the land. The chief tribunal in each Presidency was one composed of a mixed *personnel*, and generally above personal influences. Accordingly, he applied to the High Court and has found relief, God be praised! and Bless the High Court!

THE *Prajabandhu* newspaper—the *Age* of Chandernagore—is in trouble again. There is not much of a constituency in the little French settlement, nevertheless the proprietor chose it for the base of his operations that he might escape the attentions of the British Indian Courts for free and unbridled criticism of men and things outside the French possession. But he was out in his reckoning; having only made the acquaintance of French Law under compulsion. Little thought he that the French Indian Courts afforded relief to those of the surrounding territory who applied to them. It is not long since the conductor was caught in a net of his own making, but escaped a criminal conviction after a costly appeal to Pondicherry. The paper has again been brought into prominence. It published a letter from Hooghly reflecting on the conduct of the Vicar of Bandel. The Reverend gentleman repented the libel, and applied to the French Court for punishment of the offending journal. A plea was taken on behalf of the paper that costs were not deposited by the plaintiff, to meet the expenses

of the defence in case the suit failed, and praying for a deposit of Rs. 500. The Judge considered the amount excessive, and ordered Rs. 200. The *Prajabandhu* then wanted time, but the Court would not allow it. To the case went *ex parte*. The Court believed the charge libellous and sentenced the editor to 3 months' imprisonment and fined the proprietor 2,000 francs, 1,000 whereof to be paid to the plaintiff by way of damages. The order does not come into operation till the time for review and appeal has expired. The damages are excessive. It is a terrible punishment for a poor vernacular paper.

FOR Struggling Respectability, there is often balm in Gilead—the Police and Small Cause Court and Insolvent Court departments of the newspapers. For those who find it difficult, if not impossible, in these hard times, after providing for themselves and families and meeting the demands of Government, to pay at due dates municipal rates and taxes, there is certainly a crumb of comfort in yesterday's *Daily News*, in which about a dozen of the fattest people going, including makers and dispensers of law, professors and professionals, men of light and leading and men of darkness profound, are proclaimed evaders.

Sir Henry Harrison has commenced the season smartly, doing his duty and giving "society" a fine topic for small talk. On Thursday when the Metropolis was on the tiptoe of its final welcome to the Viceroy, the wide-awake Chairman's faithful License officers were busy in attendance at the Police Court with their applications for summonses against a host of defaulters who had not taken out licenses for their carriages and horses for the first half year of 1888-89 long since expired.

"Among those who have been summoned are—the Hon'ble Mr. F. M. Halliday, C. S., H. M. Kisch, Esq., C. S., Dr. Raye, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose, Mon Mohun Ghose, Esq., Rajah Gobind Lall Rai Bahadoor, Rajah Tej Narain Singh, Rai Bahadoor, Baboo Raj Coomar Sarbadhicary, Dr. Rakhal Dass Ghose, Messrs. Milton and Co., Mr. W. R. Fink, Mr. J. R. Napier, Mr. C. T. Davis, and Baboo Ashootosh Dhur."

The "poor Natives"—ever poor for all their possessions and a' that—are in good company, at any rate.

To us of the quill craft there is also a satisfaction in the evidence of the impartiality of our Press afforded by the report. Mr. J. R. Napier is, we believe, the manager of the *Daily News* and for some time in entire charge of the paper. It would have been easy to keep his name out, if the gentlemen of it had cared for it. By showing no nervousness on the point, perhaps Mr. Napier has gained in distinction.

'Tis pleasant sure to see one's self in print!

sang Byron. And so it is—no matter how, or wherefore.

When British Honourables and native Rajas allow themselves to be summoned for not paying the public dues on their horses and equipage, lesser wights may well be tempted to withhold their taxes in order to have a quiet opportunity of coming to the front. Nor is this the first time that great names have been linked to what the vulgar deem pettiness. From time to time, the tiny nets of the small tax-gatherer hauls up before the court shoals of whales of power and lions of society. A few years back, half the "big wigs" and the wealth and chivalry of European society, from members of Council to leading leeches of the professions, were summoned for disobedience of a minor Conservancy regulation. They naturally lost their temper over it, but who ever thought them guilty of wilful wrong-doing?

WE are making substantial progress in biological science. The discovery of iodoform marks an epoch. Every day develops the marvellous vivifying powers of this agent. The latest wonder is the achievement of a German Surgeon. The following account is not a dart from a Yankee Longbow, but a record in a grave professional journal.

"A man accidentally cut off his left great toe in the middle of the first joint. The severed piece remained hanging to the foot, but the connecting skin was scarcely thicker than a thread; Dr. Klein sewed on the fragment, dressed it with iodoform, and had the satisfaction, in twenty-two days, of finding the wound healed and the toe perfectly sound and flexible. Encouraged by the unexpected result in this case, Dr. Klein was induced to apply the same treatment again. A recruit, in order to disable himself and so escape from military service, deliberately cut off his fore-finger with an axe at the second joint. The finger-end was lost, and could not be found until half an hour had elapsed. It was then cold and blue. Nevertheless Dr. Klein sewed it to the stump and applied a bandage of iodoform gauze. As early as the second day it was evident that circulation had been partially re-established throughout the finger; and in six weeks the man had not only left hospital but

was doing the very rifle-drill which he had hoped to shirk. The finger was in fact, as serviceable as it had ever been."

That brings within the range of probability the marvels, told us in our childhood, of men who quietly obtained from executioners the bodies of decapitated felons, and, by joining the heads to their respective trunks, setting the sundered bones together in position and plastering up the seams with their vivifying ointment, and sewing up the skin brought them back to life. Strange as was the story, it was not *ipso facto* a fable. In our maturer years, we were disposed to believe in its possibility, though the secret may have been lost, and thought that sufficient care was not taken by States in the disposal and deposit of the bodies of executed criminals. Science, we were persuaded, would yet find out the *modus operandi* of the "miracle" and the necessary *elixir*. We confess we were not so very sanguine with respect to the stone dead—bodies so cold that, unless protected by special means, decomposition must have already set in, though invisible. But with bodies still warm, though severed from the head, revival seemed to us almost a question of mere fine surgery. We have never seen goats or buffaloes sacrificed, but we thought that, if our doctors could well adjust the separated parts together again—in the case of young animals, of course—the sundered bones and tissues would unite in no time, and the circulatory and nervous systems would again perform their functions as a whole. No doubt, many European students of science have experimented in this direction, but to little purpose, till the discovery of iodiform. And now Dr. Klein of Germany has obtained a substantial success in the direction, by grafting the cold severed, if not all dead, limb on to the living organism.

IN Babu Ganga Charan Sircar of Chinsura, we have lost one of the finest specimens of the old class of modern Bengalees. A man of will and energy, unsullied by vulgar avarice or criminal ambition, he, by his own efforts, rescued himself from the depths of poverty and raised himself to fortune and distinction. He was one of the old Senior Scholars of Pre-University Education. To a fine mathematical genius, he combined a turn for poetry. He was one of the ornaments of the Subordinate Judicial Service, from which he retired with honor a few years back. His personal qualities were high. A man of infinite jest, he was geniality itself. He was an unostentatious patriot and always responded to the calls on him. We hope his gifted son will give us a biography of this man of genuine worth.

THE Bengal General Jubilee Fund has closed. The Executive Committee recommended transfer of the balance in hand to the Lady Dufferin's Fund—Bengal Branch. There was a proposition by that practical statesman Orator Surrender Not to apply the balance towards the founding of a technical College. Sir Comer Petheram, who is the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, with unwavering-like *naïveté*, confessed that he knew not what technical education was. Only three subscribers of the aggregate amount of less than Rs. 100 authorized the application of half their subscriptions for the fad of the hour. There was a general meeting for the final disposal of the Fund and it accepted and adopted the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

THE Nawab Bahadoor of Moorshebad with his brother Mejla Sahib (Wala Kudr Hosein Ali Mirza Bahadoor) is now in our midst. Nawab Khurshed Jah, Amir-i-Kabir, Hyderabad, arrived here on Thursday. The Maharaja of Vizianagram has returned from his sojourn in Madras. The Maharaja of Bhurtপুর is expected on Monday next.

THE *Calcutta Gazette* of the week contains the following announcement:—

"The 24th November 1888.—Mr. J. Ghosal is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Sealdah Bench, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. Ghosal is empowered to sit singly for the trial of such cases as may be made over to him, and as are within his competency to try."

Heaven help the poor suitors in the Sealdah Court!

Is this lift the reward for the Baboo's nominal Secretaryship to the Congress, or his assumption of English costume?

IN noticing the anniversary of the Mhow Native Music Club, the other day, we marked some passages from the address of the Chairman for comment and have had them lying with us in type, but have not been able to take them up.

The address was not equal to the occasion. We by no means mean to exaggerate the importance of the gathering against the chair, nor to diminish this chairman against the chairmen of other gatherings of our countrymen. We have no such desire or provocative to invidious criticism. There was no extraordinary failure in the chair. We have known much worse heads of public meetings and institutions, and seen them receive thanks for their able conduct in the chair—in not fainting in it. Most of our native meetings are *ex necessitate* presided over by this sort of striking ability. Not unoften, the chair is credited with a speech which the poor occupier of it could not, if called upon, even read. Such things have been and are. And they receive some sort of countenance from the unreality which has crept even into the debates of the legislatures and even discussions in committee. A truce to play! we say. Times are changed. Our European fellow subjects are watching us, and, as must happen in the process of our evolution, we have parties and critics sprung up among ourselves. Under these circumstances, a strict adherence to fact is more than even called for, as well as a care for character and respectability. We should select our chairmen and spokesmen with reference to fitness rather than sentiment. Above all, speeches should not be published at random. Nothing should pass to the press except through a committee of papers. It would be better, if competent men were not to be had, to invoke the private aid of a European gentleman of education.

The Mhow speech, for instance, would have been better for such help, though if our Central Indian friend can bear the truth, it would have been best suppressed. There was not physical difficulty either way. It is not a *bona fide* report, although the make-believe of "cheers" is occasionally interspersed.

Here is a characteristic passage, of which we know not what to make:—

"All present here are well aware that this native music in the early stage of the world was in the hands of the Hindu sages who were its originators but it is now much honored in *religion* and if this state of things continues, a time may come for a collapse, but we are not altogether hopeless and as music is still rigidly preserved and practised by some classes of our countrymen, there is no fear of its annihilation and with legitimate efforts it may yet be rescued and enliven the souls of the sons and the daughters of its early masters to a greater extent than at present."

We are fairly out of breath in reading it, and are no wiser for our pains. The word italicised is new to us. We can not even resolve it into a misprint. We not only do not catch the drift of the whole, but fail to obtain a coherent idea from any of the parts of this sententious jumble.

Again:—

"Gentlemen, music not only imparts pleasure to the feelings but it strengthens devotion and cheers every act of worship and produces more lasting and permanent impressions in the mind than any transient form of words that are uttered in the ordinary method of religious worship (cheers.) We should summon our best energies to improve ourselves in this art and use our best efforts to perfect our knowledge of the Muses."

The Muses! What! all the Muses? Is this a cyclopædian society? But if "this art" only, why all the Muses? One would suppose that of this great art, these Mhow devotees were engaged in one branch, namely, the sacred. Why then trouble all the sacred sisters?

For a last example—

"Here is a good example of energy well displayed in this respect. A number of European ladies and gentlemen of this station has established a similar Club under the name of 'The Glee Club' which has more than once delighted us in their public performances. If we, too, act with a heart we must succeed. Music has charms of its own, it carries everything before it when well played. Our music books tell us that a perfect musician has this element in his power. He commands the clouds and he commands the animal nature and I hope the members of our Club will some day prove that this is not 'myth.'"

LORD LANSLOWNE arrives at Calcutta in the afternoon of Saturday next the 8th instant, and Lord Dufferin makes over the portfolio of office next Monday the 10th, and departs.

MR. E. C. COLVIN leads to the altar Miss Bayley and goes to Bangalore Assistant Political Agent under Sir Oliver St. John. Mr. P. C. Lyons, who is expected next week, takes up the duties of Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor.

NEWS comes from Zanzibar that the Sultan is very ill and that the Germans have bombarded the town of Lindi—it is said, for a fiery affront by the natives on a German man-of-war.

THE Thien community of Malabar have been humbled—for the moment, at any rate. Their highest representative—Mr. Churia Kunhi Kaunan, Deputy Collector and Magistrate of Malabar, hitherto under suspension, has been sent to jail. He was accused of extorting and receiving a bribe of Rs. 1,000 as a public servant, and committed by the Joint Magistrate and convicted of only the second charge and sentenced by the Sessions Judge of South Malabar. He has been condemned to one month's simple and 23 months' rigorous imprisonment. He is not alone in his glory. He draws with him in the mire his brother Churia Anandan, a second grade Pleader practising in Calicut. That brother suffers, for abetting, one month's simple vegetation in gaol and 11 months' hard labor. They have also to pay to Her Majesty Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 500 respectively or undergo 9 and 6 months' additional incarceration. Such is the order of Mr. Lewis Moore. The brothers were spared the ignominy of the dock and were represented by Counsel during the trial. Messrs. Norton and Gantz very ably defended them. The brothers of course pleaded not guilty and the pleader brother in addition an *alibi*. Before they surrendered to receive judgment, the Magistrate brother received from his aged mother a cup of milk which she had herself drawn from the cow—the mother's last gift, as she said, to the son. Poor mother! to have such a son!

GENERAL SIR HENRY WYLLIE NORMAN, from Jamaica, goes over to Queensland as Governor.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1888.

THE SCOTCH FOR EVER!

THE LAST ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

THE dinner in honor of St. Andrew held annually at Calcutta, is one of the established institutions of the land. And it is a useful and interesting institution—all the more valuable for the dearth of similar occasions in this far off theatre of British activity. The name by which North Britons swear or are supposed to swear, may not be confidently traced to any historical character. But the creature comforts and luxuries of the table, which are served up in his honor and consumed doubtless for the good of his soul, are by no means mythical as the Saint himself. Both the dry items and liquid measures are substantial and strong. Of course, we speak only from evidence—not of *our* senses; the White Brahmans alone having the *entrée* to the *Shradh* of the Northern Saint. Nevertheless, we can report—at second hand—without envy or jealousy. We are a Saint ourself, of an exclusive Order, and have, strictly speaking, no business at such carnivorous *réunions*. It is true, all are not equally punctilious. Many of our people are found unfaithful to the laws of purity and puritanic observances of our forefathers. Some of them, having strayed far to the Land of the Leal, the celebration of whose virtues is the chief object of St. Andrew's Festival, have lost all dietary compunction, and are able to show the Saint that respect which is measured by the quantities of haggis maunched and of whisky-toddy absorbed. Others, less heroic of taste and stomach, are prepared to manifest their respect or do penance to the Northern *Thakoor* or idol, by eating oatmeal porridge, if necessary. But these exemplary Northerners are, to use an expressive Indianism, a *pucca* set. Even in their most generous enthusiasm, they do not forget the

main chance. In their wildest race, they can draw in. In their profuse liberality, there may be marks of a contracted spirit, or the appearance thereof, and they don't care. So the Banqueting Hall on this occasion was by no means a Hall of All Nations—though the dinner was supplied by the landlords of the inn that goes by that name. The ethnic grouping was varied enough. There were representatives of many countries and creeds. All the races of the world were there, or might be, but one—the native Indian *khas*. For the matter of that, there might be the American Indian, but not the Indian of India Proper. The hybrid descendants of Manco Capac might be welcome, but not the pure progeny of Manu or Brahma. The Maori might be asked—never the Mahratta. The Baboo is, of course, the *bête noire*. There is not one Sanskrit or Arabic syllable in all the mass of names of the attendance of last evening. We are not savages all, any more than each of the persons who guzzled and gormandised to their hearts' content, in honor of St. Andrew, was the embodiment of perfection. Judged even from a European standpoint and by European standards, we have made some distinct advance, which, again, has been recognised and, in some instances, rewarded. We have native doctors and engineers and lawyers and professors. Our pleaders have been thought worthy of being promoted to the bench, even to that of the highest court. We have enlightened Zemindars and Nawabs. Last not least, we have learned men whom the *savants* and societies of Europe and America delight to honor. Many of the members of these several classes have been abroad and moved in the best society in the world. Not one of them is to be traced among the public guests or private friends of the hosts of last evening. They may have the freedom of all the most fashionable tables in London or Paris or Vienna, but they were not entitled to admission to the distribution of cakes and ale at the Scotch Rishi's *shradh* or his father's. Not even old Manickjee, Calcutta's oldest citizen and Representative at this metropolis of Persia's Shah-in-Shah, was invited to this Sandy business. It almost looks like a masonic mystery.

On the publication of that charming but rambling and voluminous autobiography *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gent.*, the author was sneered at for crying over a dead ass. That objection is not, we are afraid, altogether extinct, any more than the criticism of the profound Senior Wrangler, who, after reading *Paradise Lost* asked what did it prove? is dead. Now tears for a deceased donkey are more to the point than mourning over a mythic ecclesiastic of a prehistoric period. And the marvel is the more that a hard-headed practical and perhaps a trifle prosaic people like the Scotch should deliberately, year after year, betray themselves in this weakness. The reason probably is that Protestant Christianity, particularly in the stern form in which it prevails north of the Tweed, does not afford many opportunities for festivity. The Scotch do not care for the Saint, but are glad to take advantage of the name for a gathering of the scattered units of their nation in this land of exile. There is no other name so suitable for the purpose—none with which to conjure on the Scottish heart. Burns may seem to be an exception, but then Burns is a modern. Scott is a notorious partizan. Even to the two great heroes of Scottish Independence, much as the nation is justly proud of them, there may be lurking ill-will in some breasts on account of family connections and so forth. But there

can be no suspicion against the fetish of a mere name. St. Andrew is above suspicion. He belongs to no party or sect. He is only Christian. He alone is national.

In India, St. Andrew's Day has been, from an early period, kept sacred with the customary consumption of haggis and the customary libations of whisky. For, India is a Scotch land. The English are not so very modest a people that they would sacrifice one iota of their imperial claims out of courtesy to any of the brotherhoods associated in citizenship with them. But they dare not call it "English India," and so they submit to the compromise of "British India." Thereby they still detract from the preeminence of the Scotch. It is the same everywhere. A brilliant publicist and distinguished ex-minister, who, with his accomplished wife, is now among us, has a well-known book named *Greater Britain*—a golden word of his royal mint for designating the vast and glorious world of British power or influence, of the English language and literature, and of British liberty outside Great Britain. He might just as well have called it "Greater Caledonia" or "Scotia Abroad." We can challenge him to lay his hand upon his heart and answer how many of Scotland's hardy sons he has seen anywhere to one South Briton. Everywhere the Scotch element prevails. Talk of the Scotch being merged in the English! It is the Scotch that have swamped the English. It is the same at home as abroad. Nor is it a new thing. In fact, it is admitted, except in controversy. So notorious is the fact that the Scot brithers everywhere inconveniently jostle the weak kneed English and elbow them out, that the latter have been trying to find out the cause of their discomfiture. If they have not discovered it, they have hit upon a theory consolatory to their *amour-propre*. It is—the multitudinousness of the Scotch; their capacity for multiplication staggers Southerners and baffles English wits at competition. Mr. Thorold Rogers tells a good story—too good, perhaps—of how some years ago, a Scotchman, patriotically inclined, imported some thistle to Australia. It soon grew into such a nuisance in the new land that the legislature was compelled to interfere. An Act was passed denouncing a fine of £10 on every colonist who did not weed out his thistles. This pretty modern saga is, in the English imagination, the symbol of the Northern Hive overspreading the earth, at the expense of the so-called English valour, energy, and intelligence. A truer explanation of the phenomenon may be found in the memoirs of eminent Northerners. One cannot, for instance, go through the correspondence of Sir Charles Bell, the great anatomist, without noticing the awe in which, in London, the Scotch are held for their capacity and persistence. The truth is, the English are no match for their Northern neighbours. Mr. Rogers applies his Australian story specially to Scotch Rule in India in the last century. It applies with equal truth to this. Look at the number of the North Britons in this country! Speaking in the fashion of another of the brotherhoods, constituting the united people, most English in India are Scotch. Of late, that other brotherhood are entering appearance more largely than before, still the Scotch predominate. No wonder, that St. Andrew's Day would be a great day in India.

This year, the banquet was unusually interesting from the fact of the retiring Viceroy being the chief guest. It is many years since, a Viceroy has graced the occasion, and Lord Dufferin is not

only the first man in the Empire, but one of the greatest diners-out—in the best sense of the term—in the world. He never goes to a party which he does not enliven. On this occasion, in return for the enthusiastic welcome he received, he gave the company a historic speech—one of the greatest orations ever delivered in India. The Chair was taken by the accomplished leader of the important community of Europeans unconnected with Government. The principal speeches, besides the Viceroy's, were two. After due reverence was done in silence to the Queen-Empress, Mr. Westland proposed the Saint himself, in a speech worthy of his reputation. Then the Chairman, Sir Alexander Wilson, in giving the toast of the guest of the evening, pronounced a very able defence of the closing administration. To say that the address was far above the level of ordinary after-dinner speaking, is to do it scant justice. It is not often that, on the political platform, we hear such a lucid statement of a large and complicated subject, and such a good case made out. Disdaining to descend to the small pleasantries which form the staple of post-prandial eloquence, the speaker confined himself to the one purpose of justifying the ways of Lord Dufferin and his colleagues to the Indian public and the world at large. The speech of the evening was, of course, that of the guest-in-chief. But great as was that effort of the master, it was not all sufficient by itself. Without the other, it was not complete; it would not be fully comprehended. The one was the natural complement of the other. And both should be taken together and read. Between the two, they constitute as good a general account in brief of the Dufferin *régime* as could anywhere be had, or almost be desired.

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.

ON Thursday evening, at the Scotch Dinner, the Viceroy had his last Indian opportunity for a "palaver," and he made full use of it. It was well expected that he would take his farewell of the public, in one of his neat and graceful speeches, though the wonder was how was he to do it—where, in the midst of his perpetual engagements, was he to find the time to collect his thoughts or arrange his ideas. That anticipation has been more than realised. Expectation has been overwhelmed with the rich result. His Lordship is a wellknown "caterer," who keeps a large stock and knows the taste of his customers of every class and the quality of stuff suitable to each occasion. It is no after-dinner small beer that he served up on Thursday. He produced the choicest of his vintage—the most *recherche* of his cellars—dry, of body, and mellow with years. He was even lavish. Like a man retiring from business, he did not care to disburden himself of the most closely guarded treasures of his most secret vaults. In thanking for the toast drunk to him, he delivered himself of a remarkable address. It not only fully sustained his Lordship's claims as a speaker but almost advances his reputation as a ruler. He knew it would be his last, and he contrived to make it his greatest. Among the numerous occasions on which, often against the grain, the Viceroy has, during his Indian term, harangued, his utterances on two special junctures stand preeminent. Excellent as his speaking has been on nearly all occasions of any note, remarkably eloquent as many of his short replies to addresses and deputations have been, the place of honor certainly

belongs to his speech from the throne of India as Vice-Emperor on the day of the Jubilee and to his answer to the Calcutta Address of last year. Those were historic occasions, and the genius of the man of thought and action rose to the height of their demands. The imagination is whipped in vain to invest with dignity a palaver over a heavy dinner lightened by champagne—not to mention the national weakness—but the viceregal use of it ennobled it. That Dinner will always remain memorable for his Lordship's reply to the toast. That reply completed the Trilogy of the Dufferin state oratory in India.

Lord Dufferin always shows the finest taste in his public utterances. There is never any straining after effect, as was constantly visible in the sparkle of another literary statesman who filled the same office not many years ago—nothing meretricious. They are usually finished productions, but the art is dominated by the seriousness of the duty. As much brilliance as is consistent with the exactions of the position—as much sparkle as is naturally struck up—you get, and no more. So on the present occasion.

After a word of preliminary chaff, but that of the choicest, in obedience to the scene and the table, the Viceroy plunged in *medias res* into business. But it would not be quite accurate to regard the speech as a Defence of his Government. He deprecated the idea of making such a defence. There was no time, and the practical need which still existed last year had passed away. He, therefore, in bare justice to the chivalrous stand made for the Viceroy's reputation by the Chairman (Sir Aleck Wilson), just allowed himself one general word. Supporting Sir Alexander, he said, "in the four years of my Viceroyalty, I have had greater and more unexpected difficulties to contend with than have troubled the serenity of most of my immediate predecessors." That is a most important statement and the key to a right understanding of the merits or demerits of the administration. It is not the plea of an admirer or advocate, far less the idle utterance of irresponsible journalism. It is the statement of an English gentleman and man of honour. It is the statement of a statesman of world-wide reputation. More than all, it is the deliberate utterance before the whole world of the Viceroy of India, speaking under the eye of critics who are bound not to spare him in this behalf, his last three predecessors being alive. Notwithstanding all the drawbacks, his Lordship is able to say—

"Of one thing, at all events, I am certain—we have done a great deal more in these directions than anybody imagines."

He desired to correct one misapprehension in regard to Burma, lest it should crystallise into a popular belief, like, we suppose, some of the little but mischievous myths circulated by some of our native contemporaries. He dissipated the notion that the ill success in Burma—as the delay in the settling down, under a new and stiff uncompromising civilised alien rule, of a mostly wild country as large as France with a sparse population without means of communication or a civil organization, is called—is due to the niggardliness of the Supreme Government, or its neglect of arrangements or denial of help to the local authorities.

There the Viceroy ended and the man remained. Now he proceeded to speak not so much in his official capacity as in his inalienable character. Speaking still with the weight of a practised statesman, after four years of experience of the Indian Viceroyalty, he delivered a Lecture on Indian Politics to Young India and its friends. It is a Lecture which

ought to be circulated in original and translated into every Indian vernacular, and sown broadcast throughout the land. It ought to be pondered over and laid to heart by every son of these Indies and every outsider who loves, or even professes to love, the people. Its statement of the Indian problem is for the space perhaps unrivalled, and its general answer to the crude demands of our younger generation and our philanthropic friends unanswerable, so far as it goes. He has powerfully suggested the hopelessness of applying representative methods to the government of such a seething mass of often conflicting and occasionally nebulous elements of nationalities and tribes and castes and creeds. It is a melancholy picture, and it will be the duty of Indian patriots to see wherein lies the chance of any practicable amelioration.

So far so good. So far even the moderate reformers on the Congress may thankfully accept the criticism on the programme of the Congress, and try to correct it and bring it within the range of practical politics. We regret we are unable to follow his Lordship in his attack on the fundamental character of its objects—the specific nature of its work. If he had condemned such an organization as, in the political circumstances of the country, premature and likely, though unwittingly, to cause mischief, we might understand him. He might or might not be, correct, according to the nature of the facts. If he had simply said that, in the present stage of Indian evolution, the time for any extensive political activity, even within the limits of the Constitution and of loyalty to the British Crown, had not come, it would be an intelligible and intelligent view, worthy of discussion. Perhaps his Lordship meant that, in that case he did not bring his mind out with his usual clearness. But to blame a political association for indulging in political aspirations and pressing forward constitutional and administrative reforms, is like, say, accusing the sun of shining. Social reforms are no doubt much needed, but they must be the care of other organizations. Lord Dufferin himself has given the best reason why Social Reform cannot be taken up by the Congress. To speak accurately, some of the subjects mentioned by him may be taken up and, in so far as they may be, we hope they will be attended to.

Lord Dufferin then echoes the charge preferred with such vigour by his Lieutenant of Upper India against the Congress, for circulating seditious stuff, exaggerated denunciations of the British administration, and so forth. We have lately dwelt on the subject, in noticing Sir Auckland Colvin's masterly letter to Mr. Allan Hume, and would here only ask the standing organization of the Congress to at once suppress such publications as may be really liable to reproach. It is impossible not to sympathise with the indignation and scorn of Lord Dufferin at the threat of physical force behind the back of their movement held out by the leaders of the Congress.

Here for once, at any rate, it was the Viceroy that spoke. Then the speaker closed in a reassuring vein. He is not an enemy, any more than Sir Auckland Colvin. And after chiding us as we deserved as naughty boys, he promised us a new cap—

"I have had ample opportunities of gauging and appreciating to its full extent the measure of good sense, of practical wisdom, and of experience which is possessed by the leading men of India, both among the great nobles on the one hand, and amongst the leisured and professional classes on the other, and I have now submitted officially to the home authorities some personal suggestions in harmony with the foregoing views."

There! There is the hand of an imperial ruler.

THE VICEROY AT DACCA.

Dacca, November, 28.

The Marquis of Dufferin arrived at Naraingunj, as already announced, at about 1 P. M., on the 26th instant. His Excellency's yacht was met at the mouth of the river Lakhia by the Commissioner of the Division, the District Judge, and the Magistrate of the District. His Excellency lunched with Mr. Henderson and viewed Messrs. David & Co.'s jute factory, and then proceeded by water to the Railway Station, where he was met by the Naraingunj Municipal Commissioners, who presented him an address of welcome. The reply made was of a pleasing and sympathetic character.

At about 4 P. M., Lord Dufferin and his party proceeded by a special train to Dacca and reached the station at half past four. The arrival of His Excellency at the Dacca station was entirely private, and only the officials of the town on duty, Nawabs Sir Abdool Guni Meah, K. C. S. I., Ashunnullah, K. B. and suite were allowed in it. The police lined the space outside the station in which a Captain's escort of the Surma Valley Light Horse were drawn up and escorted His Excellency to the Sudr Ghat. Suitable arrangements for the reception of His Excellency in Dacca took place at Sudr Ghat and were made by the police. There guards of honor of the Dacca Rifle Volunteers and of the Military police with band were drawn up. The road leading from the Railway station to the Sudr Ghat was decorated with flags, plantain-trees, &c., and five grand and triumphal arches were erected on the road.

The Marquis of Dufferin received the address presented to him by the Dacca Municipality in the evening of the 26th instant. At noon, on the 27th, His Excellency received the address of the Muhammadans of East Bengal, to which he made a graceful reply. Both the address and the reply were in Persian tongue. At about 4 P. M. of the same day, Lord Dufferin proceeded to the Polo Ground and there viewed polo played by the Manipuris.

At night, His Excellency attended the ball that was held at the private residence of Babu Rupal Dass. During His Excellency's stay here almost the whole town was splendidly illuminated, and the river bank indeed presented an imposing spectacle. The Europeans of the town adorned their houses with illuminated mottoes and words of compliment to, and adoration of, Lord and Lady Dufferin. Dacca has rarely witnessed such a grand and imposing spectacle. His Excellency leaves our town this morning.

DOES "BABOO" STINK?

It is somewhat late in the day perhaps to ask in the sceptical way you have done—Does "Baboo" stink?—for it assuredly does in young sensitive nostrils, though you, with your blunt ancient nostrils, may find it difficult to conceive that it can. If it did not, why should Joint-Magistrate Surjya Kumar Agasti of Burdwan have pulled up his nose at being "babooed?" He was, I hear, "baboo"ed, of course without meaning any insult, by an amla of the Sessions Judge's Court, at which he got sadly heartbroken and complained to his superior, the Magistrate of the district, with a view to redress. The Magistrate then brought the matter to the notice of the Sessions Judge, whereupon the Gazette order posting him to this station was looked up, with the result that it has been judicially pronounced that having been Governmentally designated "Mr.," he is entitled to the mistership he claims and that he shall henceforward be always "mistered." It is a pity that gentlemen with such excellent education as the Joint Magistrate in question must have had cannot rise above such ridiculous pettiness. Baboo Brajendra Kumar Sil, District and Sessions Judge, Bankura, though statutorily civilianed like Mr. Agasti, is still only a plain Baboo. It appears therefore that the statute at any rate does not necessarily exalt an officer promoted to the Civil Service to a mistership.—Yours faithfully,

Burdwan.

HYPERSENSITIVE NOSTRILS.

DISCIPLINE AND MORAL TRAINING IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

Dated Calcutta, the 24th September 1888.

From—Nawab Abdool Lutceef, Bahadoor, C.I.E.,

To—The Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, General and Revenue Department.

[Concluded from p. 538.]

APPENDIX.

*Extract from my letter, dated 28th June 1877, to the address of COLONEL**O. T. BURNF, Private Secretary to His Excellency Lord Lytton.*

In 1873, when the question of the text-books of the Calcutta University attracted the notice of His Excellency Lord Northbrook, His Lordship nominated some gentlemen to a Special Committee to consider the subject. I was honoured with a seat on that Committee. From the conversations that I had with His Excellency, I was led to expect that the question would be taken up in a comprehensive spirit upon some well-understood predetermined principles. Although, in our report, it was deemed necessary to take high ground, the Committee practically made an offhand choice among the books which had been in the curriculum from the beginning of what is called high education in English in this country. One principle, from my representative character in that Committee, I did not, of course, omit to bring to the notice of my colleagues, and to insist upon, although it involved a condemnation of the carelessness not to say sectarianism, which had of late years governed the selection of books for the youth of India. As a Mahomedan, in particular I could not but object to Mahomedan boys without rhyme or reason being set daily to read unfounded calumnies and provoking sneers against their faith. After the evil practice of many years, I was almost grateful to my colleagues, therefore, for recognising the principle of religious neutrality in the literature for the "little go" at least; and one paper in Addison in particular (No. 94), which sinned against it, was rejected. The general views I had urged, together with my suggestions for carrying them, were, I fear, equally lost. There was no discussion in meeting, and no minute which may have been recorded on mine was circulated. A few opinions of some of the members had been circulated before I put in my minute. I beg to submit my minute, recorded on that occasion, as embodying some of my views which, confirmed by increased experience, are as applicable to the present phase of the question as they were three or four years back, for even the religious aspect of the question has not varied. To me, a native of India, it seemed even then a poor compromise to rule "that in choosing works to be read by the F. A. students all distinctly controversial passages in favour or against any religion should be expunged," as, in the first place, leaving open the door of controversy in respect of the whole body of University students besides; and secondly, as leaving ample loopholes for annoyance to the religious feelings and injury to the religious beliefs of Hindus and Mussulmans. But the compact, such as it is, has hardly been kept. It has either been ignored even in the case of the F. A. students, so formally taken under the protection of the Committee of 1873; or in the usual carelessness with which the selection of books is made, it has been broken through. It would be preposterous to suppose that the loophole has been availed of for the annoyance of Mahomedans by the choice of Scott's oriental romance, "The Talisman." It would seem that the deliberations of 1873 have been a dead letter, for I do not find Scott at all in the list of prose writers recommended by Lord Northbrook's Committee. Scott, no doubt, is a noble writer, and almost an indispensable one in English education here or elsewhere. But could no other work be found among the writings of a most voluminous author to set before Asiatic youth than one teeming with sneers and reproaches against the unfortunate East—a work, too, revelling in curses on the head of the Holy Prophet in almost every other page? I need scarcely say with what pain Asiatics, especially Mahomedan youths, must peruse such a book. Mahomedan guardians may well feel alarmed for the natural self-respect and religious integrity of their children, obliged to make such works their daily study. How little confidence they must feel in the measures of an educational administration in which the feelings of their community are negligently trifled with, if not wantonly insulted. I trust His Excellency will not consider this as a senti-

Holloway's Pills.—Teachings of Experience.—The united testimony of thousands, extending over more than forty years, most strongly recommends these Pills as the best purifiers, the mildest aperients, and the surest restoratives. They never prove delusive, or give merely temporary relief, but attack all ailments of the stomach, lungs, heart, head, and bowels in the only safe and legitimate way, by depurating the blood, and so eradicating those impurities which are the source and constituent of almost every disease. Their medicinal efficacy is wonderful in renovating enfeebled constitutions. Their action embraces all that is desirable in a household medicine. They expel every noxious and effete matter; and thus the strength is nurtured and the energies stimulated.

mental grievance. I beg to assure His Lordship that the objection to "The Talisman," for instance, does not originate with me. The complaint came in most doleful terms from several Mahomedan fathers before I looked into the book. I agree in their opinion of the objectionableness of the romance as a text for an Indian University. I am loath to quote the foul expressions, but just mark some of them in the accompanying copy of the book. After all that I have done, through more than a quarter of a century, not wholly without success, to induce my Mahomedan fellow-subjects to take kindly to Western knowledge, I feel it my duty, even at the risk of being laughed at for my bigotry by the wise men of the West, to submit this matter to His Excellency that he may be pleased to remove this gratuitous source of alienation. Western literature is in itself de-Orientalizing, de-nationalizing, and so forth, enough without choosing text-books especially calculated to repel or annoy. Western culture thus pursued, instead of being a social distinction, must be viewed with suspicion by all respectable members of our society. It might be some excuse for provocation if the ends of culture could not be served without it---if, for instance, all or most English works were liable to the same objection. Fortunately for the feelings of the Mahomedans and the credit of Government, the range of English literature is extensive enough for any choice, however scrupulous.

Public Paper.

No. 828, dated the 31st January 1862.

From---W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To---The Secretaries to the local Governments, and Chief Commissioners.

I am directed to transmit, for information and guidance, the accompanying copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 145, dated the 16th ultimo, prescribing restrictions with regard to the communication of official papers to private persons in this country, as well as with regard to their transmission to private persons in England.

2. The following points, it will be observed, are those to which attention is specially enjoined:---

(I.) That no official papers are to be sent to individuals or public bodies in England, except through the India Office in London.

(II.) That official papers are not to be communicated to private persons in India, until they shall have been forwarded to the Secretary of State.

(III.) That a copy of every paper printed for publication, or circulation beyond the officers of Government, is to be sent to the Secretary of State by the first opportunity after it leaves the Press.

No. 145, dated London, the 16th December 1861.

From---THE RIGHT HON'BLE SIR CHARLES WOOD, BART., M.P. AND G.C.B., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India,

To---His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General of India in Council.

I beg to draw the attention of your Lordship in Council to the

"I would observe that copies of this translation were sent to the persons to whom copies of printed official documents about the indigo crisis had been sent.

"Numerous copies had been sent, as if by the authority of the Government of Bengal, to Members of Parliament and public bodies in England, to some parties at a distance in this country, and to the amount of no less than twenty copies to the office of the Secretary of State in London."

where, by the public authorities in India.

2. I am aware that it has for some time been the practice in India to give early publicity to official papers of importance; and, although the practice has, in some instances, led to the circulation in this country of the proceedings of the Government in India before they have been transmitted for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, the publication of such documents may sometimes be highly expedient, provided the time and manner of such publication be reserved for the decision of Government, subject to any restrictions which Her Majesty's Government may from time to time think it necessary to impose.

3. It can seldom, however, be necessary or desirable on public grounds that official papers should be transmitted, under official sanction, to individuals or public bodies in this country; and, taking into consideration the mischief and embarrassment which have occurred from the circulation of the *Nil Durpan*, ostensibly, though not in reality, under the sanction of the Bengal Government, I have to request that you will at once issue orders which will put a stop to direct communications of this nature, and that in any cases where it may be desired by Government to forward public papers to bodies or individuals in this country, the transmission be made through this office.

4. I have, at the same time, to call your attention to the practice which appears to prevail to some extent in the public offices in India, of communicating official documents to private individuals in that country. By this means papers of importance have, from time to time, reached this country, and obtained a wide circulation, before they have been officially received at this office. As a case in point, I may mention that a copy, printed in London, of the Report of Mr. Morris on the Indigo Districts was privately placed in my hands, together with an elaborate paper upon it, by the "Landholders' and Commercial Association of British India," a considerable time before the Report came to me from the Government of Bengal. Such occurrences are calculated to place Her Majesty's Government in great difficulty and embarrassment. I direct, therefore, that the practice to which I have referred may be discontinued, and that no copy of a public document, of an official nature, be communicated to private individuals, in India till the same shall have been forwarded for my information. I have further to request that a copy of every paper published for general information, or printed for circulation to other than the officers of Government, by order of your Excellency in Council, or of any Lieutenant-Governor or Chief Commissioner in India, subordinate to your Government, may be transmitted to me by the first opportunity after leaving the Press.

extracts in the margin, the first from the letter of Mr. Seton-Karr to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated 29th July last; and the second from the Resolution of your Lordship in Council of the 8th August following, on the subject of the transmission of official documents to public bodies and individuals in this country and else-

EMERALD THEATRE

. BEADON STREET.

Manager, BABU G. C. GHOSE.

Saturday---the 1st December 1888---
at 9 P. M.

Babu Grish Chunder Ghose's

SUBLIME TRAGEDY,

BISHAD.

Next day---Sunday---the 2nd December,
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THE SEASON'S SURPRISE,

Nundo-Bidaya,

Books to be had at our Box Office---

NUNDO-BIDAYA ... Price, 8 annas.

BISHAD 1 Rupee.

M. L. SUR, Asst. Manager.

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	Rs.
Amount already advertised	... 60,867
H. H. the Maharajah of Travancore,	
G.C.S.I. 3,000
The Manager, Dighapatiah Wards	
Estate .. ..	... 200
H. H. the Rajah of Bhinga	... 50
Total .. ..	... 64,117

DR.

J. N. MITRA, M.R.C.P.,
London,

Gold Medalist in Medicine & Hygiene,
Stood 1st in the FINAL EXAMINATION,

CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE IN 1880.

Late Surgeon Superintendent of Quarantine
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OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high repute among the kindly, as well as acute and intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as an Englishman may find them if he looks fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder; and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen could give individual instances of Bengalee faithfulness almost unique in history, taking all the circumstances of our relation to India into account. The Bengalee is generally eager for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both courageous in the expression of his opinions, and gifted to a remarkable degree with the power to express those opinions with force and precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in force as well as eloquence, any unprepared speech he ever had heard made by any member of the House of Commons, if four or five members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body of men—small for that large province—who are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young Bengal." Some of them are no longer young, but grave and aged; some have, in the course of years, been highly distinguished for their public services and their scientific and other attainments. Some have at times been misrepresented, and their language misinterpreted, so that on its return to them it has amazed none more than themselves. Nothing of this has been done by the really great administrators of India. That it has been done, however, cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute, as I have said, also an administrator, as the reader will see from the title-page to this book. A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might seek for and not find. His use of the English language has astonished many an educated Englishman; and the quality of his reading is shown by his marvellous power of quotation; not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads, and little-known old pamphlets, in the application of which he leaves one wondering—first, how he obtained the productions at all, and secondly, how, having obtained them, he learned to apply them so appositely to the subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the work of the administrator. He comes upon a milkman's village, on which he finds fastened the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens the grip, and re-settles the village, in the double interest of Prince and Peasant. And all the time he sees everything. The poor people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his genial and kindly, if also at times, what a Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice. A "fair maid of Sonagoan" attracts his attention by the gracefulness with which she carries a vessel of water from the river; and, though the fair maid and he are divided by race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admitted—and he will not be offended with me for saying so—that he never meets with a fair face, without at least giving evidence of the fact that he has eyes to see and a heart to comprehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much might be said, and still leave much more to say. He meets a missionary on the river, and evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, however, in the bud, and contents himself with saying, "So new is preaching here, that the simple people said the padre had been singing in the street." He meets Catholic and Protestant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles over their disputes, while he astonishes them by his command of the English language, and even by his knowledge of the Bible—a knowledge, I may add, which is evident in many of his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in its cage, to his great distress, which is not however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to qiark, with a noble independence, at some very dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled, to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell: [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one that will draw the author very close to the great heart of humanity, wherever the words are read. Could anything be finer than the testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen," ending with the "Bengalee pariah, my poor Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah dog. The passage is worthy of the author, and of the great mercifulness of the land that bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared further to find bold and manly language. The author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he gives John his due, and admits that India owes him a great debt. Here is one passage relating to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country word-pictures the reader will find some exceedingly pretty, and all the more valuable in that they are taken from a standpoint purely Indian; not English. Where an English artist's mind would be filled with European ideas, the mind of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our author was placed in a dilemma of a kind not unknown to travellers in India, but not on that account the less stupid. He wished to go by a particular boat, add took time by the forelock for that purpose. The fare was at first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from the Currency Office, and had been received only the day before from another Government department." The rest of the story is thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth something. I can fancy the author laughing even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at others, and equally well at himself. I shall only venture on one more passage; and I give it as showing the spirit of the man who dares to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*. He desired to return to his home in Bengal, and to bid adieu, for a time at last, to Independent Tipperah, where he had been located "some two years." He received the Maharajah's permission to return home; but still he could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this passage; the lesson of the immense value of courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers and ruled. There is a great deal in that sentence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best administrator in India is not always the ablest, the man whose plans are the wisest as plans; but the man who, with plans or without them, gives confidence to the people, and confidence not merely in his justice, but also in his considerateness and forbearance. A clever man once said that heart of success in India is the art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in any case the art has its limits, and its natural collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall in the end. But there is one art that never fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy which, being natural, is not affected by any whim or caprice, either of the person who possesses it, or of anyone with whom he has relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once more recall, as I easily and very vividly can, the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as known to me many years ago. I see him, as I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*; and I feel and say, with all earnestness and sincerity, that among these are men whom the Government of India would be wise in recognising and winning entirely to its side. They are men on whom no really generous word—true as well as generous—ever is thrown away. I have compared them at times with men of kindred occupations at home, and I think that they are as a rule by far the truer gentlemen in good manners, and often in very much more than mere manners. May the great God, whose sacred Name they use as that of the Father of all, guide them to a nobler destiny than any they yet have known, and with them, and by them, bless their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar 1888.

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MR. T. H. WICKES has come back from the N. W. Provinces and Oudh to Bengal, and is posted as Superintending Engineer of the Western Circle; Mr. H. Joll, Officiating Superintending Engineer, Western Circle, officiates as Superintending Engineer of the Eastern Circle; Mr. W. H. Nightingale, Officiating Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, becomes Inspector of Local Works in the Bhagulpore Division; while Mr. W. H. King continues to officiate as Inspector of Local Works in the Patna Division.

THE Gilchrist Scholarship Examinations will begin on Monday the 14th January 1889, at the Presidency College.

THE Officiating Chief Magistrate has found the serang of the *Mongola* guilty of culpable negligence by starboarding and going across the river as he did in the afternoon of 5th November, and, on conviction under section 304 A. I. P. Code, sentenced him to 6 months and one week's simple imprisonment.

It has been ruled that from the new year 1889, the supply of books and newspapers, except in Madras and Bombay, for the use of Government offices, shall be entered at the office of the Superintendent of Stationery, Calcutta, and paid for therefrom. This does not take away the power of the various Governments and Departments to order the supply, but there must be a record of the supply in the one particular office.

THE importations from 1st April to 31st October to this country, of the precious metals are, gold Rs. 1,34,68,859 and silver Rs. 4,42,53,248.

THE Indian Museum was open only 10 days in November. Notwithstanding, the visitors were—Natives 13,036 males and 4,834 females; Europeans 292 males and 70 females, in all 18,232.

As a prevention against defalcations we believe, disbursing officers of all departments are required in future to settle all claims as they arise and take steps to bring them to account immediately.

THE Italian Roman Catholics have been freed by the Pope to vote at elections.

THE Bill for the extension of the Land Purchase Act and the Oaths Bill have passed the Upper House.

THE Marine Court has commenced the investigation of the loss of *Vaiurna*. The information hitherto elicited is no more than what we already know.

MR. MARSDEN has returned from leave and rejoined his place as Chief Magistrate of Calcutta.

THE Exodus Question has been solved by the Secretary of State—by a compromise. Lord Cross thinks that the migration to the hills should not extend over 6½ months—from the middle of April to end of October.

In a jealous fit, Raghunandan Dowbay, Head constable, Chanauli Police Thana, Benares, brutally hacked, with a drawn sword, a dancing-girl about the face, arms and shoulders. The mother of the girl, in attempting to save the poor victim, received a sword cut on the head. The unworthy Brahman? But then his Brahmanism is an Indian Bobby.

FIFTEEN years after the event, "his grateful and admiring countrymen" have marked with a tombstone the spot in the Circular Road Cemetery, where lie the mortal remains of Michael Modoo Soodun Dutt. The stone was unveiled with some ceremony by Mr. Monmohun Ghose last Saturday. The Baboo with good grace allowed the son of the deceased to lay the first floral offering.

MR. BOLTON, the 24-Pergunnahs Magistrate, has quashed the conviction of Wilson the gate Inspector, Peters the goods shed clerk, and the carter, sentenced by the Sealdah Magistrate, Mr. Palit.

COLONEL BANNERMAN retires from service and Gwalior. Major Barr from Rewah succeeds him, he, in his turn, being replaced at Rewah by Major Robertson.

A NEW line of steamers is announced from January next—a German service—from Bremen to Bombay and Calcutta.

MR. E. G. COLVIN, Sir Stuart Bayley's Private Secretary, was married to Miss Bayley at St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday. Lord and Lady Dufferin witnessed the marriage register. God bless the new couple!

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Jubilee festivities, according to *Truth*, cost the Queen £60,000. A very probable figure, certainly. We hope, however, there will be some more authoritative confirmation of what is now the gossip of a society paper. The information has an importance in India which it has nowhere else. It will surprise many of the ill-educated mass—not to say anything of the masses—to learn that Her Majesty has been put to any expenditure on account of the Jubilee. They have been taught rather to imagine that she only drew a heavy dragnet, without being a farthing out of pocket for fishing requisites or in wages. We hope every Indian paper will make a point to circulate this information.

CALCUTTA is flooded with notabilities, Eastern and Western, and the inundation is still on the rise. From all directions, are flowing princes and princelings or their representatives, Nawabs and Khan Bahadoors, Rajas and Rai Bahadoors, and men of different kinds of eminence, to bid the retiring Viceroy and Lady Dufferin farewell, and receive their successors. Already, rents have run up to fabulous demands.

LAST week we noticed the arrival of the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad and his brother Nawab Wala Kudr Hosein Ali Mirza; Nawab Shumsool Omrah Amir-i-Kabir, of Hyderabad, and Sir Gajapati Razu, Maharaja of Vizianagram.

ACCORDING to our announcement, the Maharaja of Bhurtpore arrived on Monday and was received with suitable honours.

THE cis-Sutledge State of Nabha (whose Chief was at Lahore to receive their Excellencies and followed them to Puttiala) has sent members of its Council as representatives. Trans-Sutledge Kapurthala is represented by Sirdar Bhagat Singh, Member of Council there.

ONE of the most interesting arrivals is Mahamahopadhyaya Sirdar Sir Attar Singh, Chief of Buddihou, the most learned of the elder generation of the Khalsa. He is accompanied by his stalwart heir. It must do the heart of every native good to look at such grand specimens of Indian humanity as all our visitors from the Panjab are.

THE leading Talooqdars and Reises of Oudh are now well represented at the metropolis by Kunwar Harnam Singh Ahluwalia, C. I. E., of the Kappoorthala family and manager of the Kappoorthala Estates in Oudh, Secretary to the Talooqdars's Association; the Honourable Rana Sir Shunker Buksh Singh, K. C. I. E.; Chowdhri Nasrat Ali Khan Bahadur, of Sandila, and Moonshee Newul Kishore, C. I. E.

NEARER home, we have the Maharaja of Bettia, looking fresh and bright since his relief from the load of care by the recent arrangement with respect to his enormous debt.

AS a sort of contrast to him, is the stout but active and intelligent Raja Ram Narain Singh, the intelligent and prudent lord of Khaira, Monghyr, who has come this week.

ON Wednesday, arrived Rai Dhatri Nath Bahadur, uncle of the minor Chief of the Tributary State of Mhorbhanj in Orissa.

THE same day, the Maharaja of Durbhunga, K. C. I. E., came by appointment to see the Viceroy but not to stay, although he

had taken house and sent his people long before. After the interview, Sir Luchmessur Singh Bahadoor left for Durbhunga by the same evening's train. We regret to learn that there is sickness in the Maharaja's family, which required his presence at home. He will be coming again, of course, as soon as practicable.

THE *Sutlej* which brought the Viceroy elect to India had a troublous passage from the British Channel, all through almost, except in the Mediterranean. Lord Lansdowne travelled through the Continent by rail; taking the vessel at Brindisi. The savage Red Sea frowned so that she could with difficulty approach the rock of the Asiatic Gibraltar on the Arabian coast. The Arabian Sea was in a rage. According to our Oriental superstition—which often comes true, somehow—we should suspect the presence of some wretched Anglo-Indian on board to whom this mishap was due, and recommend the institution of a moral quarantine to keep out surly churls and other evil company. The fine weather from Brindisi to Egypt was, of course, due to Lord and Lady Lansdowne. Certainly, they made the most of it, and contributed not a little to the happiness of the party on board. They were lucky in their Commander, who, besides being an expert seaman, was a splendid Boniface. So much so, that he obtained an address from the passengers which Lord Lansdowne presented to him, adding to its value by a speech from himself.

The steamer bearing its freight of invaders of the Government of India, awoke Bombay by its cannonade at dawn of Monday. It was boarded by the Governor of Bombay's Military Secretary, Col. Lytton, and an A.D.C., and Mr. Nugent the Chief Secretary, the Governor himself awaiting at Government House. In the pavilion erected near the landing, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught was in attendance, at the head of a large concourse of the official and non-official classes. His Royal Highness presented the military officers and the Political Secretary presented the foreign consuls and the Native Chiefs. Then the Hon'ble Mr. Sayani, at the head of the Corporation, presented their address, to which Lord Lansdowne made a long and cheering reply. His Lordship and Lady Lansdowne were then driven to Government House, where they were received by Lord Reay.

To-day, Lord Lansdowne arrived at the Howrah terminus at 4.33 and came direct to Government House. The usual honours attended him. He did not, however, enter upon his office immediately. The ceremony of installation will take place on Monday. The members of Government will assemble on that day in the Throne Room and at 9 in the morning, his Lordship at their head will proceed to the Council Chamber, where Her Majesty's commission, appointing him Viceroy and Governor-General of India, will be read by the Home Secretary. Lord Lansdowne will then take his seat in Council under a salute of 31 guns. Besides the high officers of the Government, and the various Foreign Consuls, the ceremonial will be witnessed by any of the public who may desire to attend. A quarter of an hour more, and the Marquis and Marchioness of Dufferin and family will leave Government House for ever. The outgoing Viceroy will be accompanied by Lord Lansdowne to the Howrah Railway Station, where he will be received by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and the Members of Council. The honors and distinctions of the Viceroy shall all continue to be given the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava as far as Aden, in accordance with precedent. The same ceremonial with which Lord Lansdowne was received on his arrival and journey through India will be observed on the occasion of Lord Dufferin's departure. After the ceremonial of the morning, the Sheriff of Calcutta will proclaim the new Viceroy's assumption of office in the High Court, as part of the attendant ceremonial.

ANOTHER proof, if proof were still needed, in refutation of the calumny so obstinately circulated, that Government is pursuing an aggressive policy towards the Native States, and that, pursuant to it, Lord Dufferin has been trying to introduce an English administration into them by forcing on them European Civil or Military servants as Ministers! We are authoritatively informed that the Begum of Bhopal having expressed a wish to again try a Mahomedan Minister, the Government of India has acquiesced in her wish, and Munshi Imtiaz Ali of Lucknow will be appointed to the post.

MR. G. M. GOODRICKE has taken six months' extension of his leave from the Secretary of State on sick certificate. That is, he draws half

pay. Meanwhile, for his thorough and wholesale dishonesty in the discharge of his duty, the Board of Revenue has recommended his total severance from the service. But we are afraid the Board is no match for the Petticoat.

AS a test of popularity, the Lieutenant-Governor's late tour has been a great success. The following account received by us gives an interesting example of how he was waylaid as it were for honour.

"There were gay doings Wednesday week at Mysadal, an out of the way town in the sub-division of Tumlook, district Midnapore. This place is the seat of the Garga Rajas who, it is said, settled there three or four centuries ago, with the help of some Portuguese soldiers, whose descendants at Gewankolly are now hardly distinguishable from our countrymen amongst whom they live, except by their names and Christian faith. Here Sir Stuart Bayley, with Messrs. Nolan and Colvin, passed at about 4 P.M. of the 28th November. The Raja decorated the banks of the canal near his house, for a long distance, with triumphal arches of evergreens, hunting and flowers. There were also illuminations and fire-works which threw up a blaze of light, giving the whole town a fairy-like look. The Raja with his retinue and the boys of the school were, of course, on the spot. There were also the Police Inspector, the Lal Puggrees and the Sub-divisional officer. The latter were to have guarded the entrance of the tidal canal into the Rupnaryan and the Hooghly—at Gewankolly where all passengers by the canal experience the greatest difficulties, and where His Honor slept in the Aurora during the small hours of the next night. But they did not like the idea of being outdone in ceremonies by a non-official and in their own Bumbledom. Was it not better for them to palm off the grand preparations of the Raja on the ruler?"

But the Raja also arranged for pyrotechnical exhibitions at Gewankolly while the locks there were illuminated by the local toll officer. His Honor took the yacht Clytea at 5, arriving at Kidderpore, at 9 O'clock Thursday morning.

These spontaneous receptions which greeted the Lieutenant-Governor at such out of the way places, where far from landing, the programme of this tour does not shew if he was to pass through, show that Sir Stuart Bayley is the most popular Lieutenant-Governor that we have ever had; his administration, unlike that of his predecessors, commending itself to the people of all classes and creeds.

These receptions are got up by non-officials, but they are enjoyed by officials generally. In bearing the cost thereof, our people have no eye to what is called the main chance. Some of them may have a lurking desire for titles, but these cost Government nothing, nor is their gratitude like that of placemen, "a lively sense of future favours." Yet what a pity it is that sometimes they are not even introduced, by the District officers, to the ruler they delight so much to honour, or if they are introduced at all, they are put behind Deputies and Munsiffs who are perhaps sons of their own employés. This should be noted by the powers that be who taunt our educated countrymen for their hankering after Government service and yet open to them no other career.

Our District and Sub-district officers should also take a leaf out of Mr. Hare's book in regard to the Dufferin Reception Committee at Dacca, where that gentleman so pertinently explained how it would have been better for him to have kept himself aloof from the Committee's proceedings. Some tact and a judicious exercise of this power may shortly give them over the people the position which they wish to obtain by thrusting their nose in such matters, but so long as both merit and sycophancy are the passports to promotion, native officials who are wanting in one, must needs have recourse to the other."

MR. BONNERJEA, before the close of his lecturing tour in England, took the precaution to write to our brother Baboo Sishir Kumar Ghose to stop any attempt at a silly exhibition of him, by way of a welcome on his return. Perhaps, he ought to have applied to Baboo Surrender Not as the master of juvenile enthusiasm, instead of the recluse of the Purishnath hills. Hence, notwithstanding Mr. Bonnerjea's express desire, there was an attack on him attempted by straggling parties of young patriots. Fortunately, they had no General to use them for a combined operation; indeed, the Port Commissioners opportunely withdrew their draw-bridge which connects the two banks, thus effectually preventing the passage of the little army, whose leaders had not acquainted themselves with the days and hours on which the

But, whatever the theory, practically they were for life. Once a governor, always a governor, and woe betide the man that, without the help of an army under command or of conspiracy or assassination, should seek to succeed to him with only the grant of the Supreme Authority! That Power itself could hardly oust its own servant on easier terms. Hence, it, rather easily, gave away the right to such difficult succession. Hence, it did not scruple to sell the same office to several competitors at the same time, leaving them to effect entry by their own power and skill. Such scrambling for the office of ruler could not fail to be calamitous to the ruled. These contests were often bloody conflicts. Nor, when at last the appeal to the sword decided for the stout arm or the plotting head, was the after prospect more cheering to the subject population. Government in such circumstances ceases to be a state, to become an estate. It descends to a private possession. It must be doubly personal, in the worst sense.

Such is our pure Eastern experience. How do we find the matter in British hands! There is never a bloody conjuncture of planets, but always a peaceful solution. Every day the *personnel* of great posts—Kadiships of large tracts and Sadrships of the whole country, Nazimships of Districts and Divisions—even military commands of vast areas—is changed by a simple notice in a newspaper, and never is there a hitch—evasion being impossible, and disobedience out of the question. The succession to satrapies of Provinces equal for extent, population, wealth and intelligence to great kingdoms, is constantly taking place, and always noiselessly. Not a shot is fired, except in joy. Every four or five years, this monster empire of India—a dominion vaster than Aurungzebe's and stronger far than Asoka's—changes hands, and nobody is the worse for it. The whole thing is managed in the most quiet business-like way, like the transfer of joint stock shares. No force or fraud, no cajolery or threats—nothing underhand! All fair and transparent! The dogs of war are not in requisition. If the military, in large numbers, appear on the scene, that is only by way of compliment. There is no thought of contumacy—no clinging to the post.

And so it was to-day. The incoming Viceroy and the outgoing Viceroy received each other as brothers. They would have done so even if they had not been old family friends. And so in cordial union will they remain, talking over state affairs until the formal charge is given and taken, and the one remains and the other goes away.

Such is the spectacle presented by the British genius for kingcraft in India. And such is the difference between Political Civilization and Political semi-Civilization. It is a thing for us to ponder upon. Are we prepared to undertake the government without fear of bringing back the old confusion? The difference in question is one not simply of methods, but of character.

THE MARQUIS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA.

AN INSCRIPTION ON THE ADMINISTRATION.

And now it is time for us to bid the departing guest good-bye. We will not prolong the tender moment with many words; any words must be vain at this time. Still less, will we cloud this fleeting occasion with melancholy remembrances and idle controversy. It is the time for burial as it were of the Last Four Years' Administration. One line by way of epitaph is only admissible. One of

the ablest and bravest of the last seven Viceroys, the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava has been the most misunderstood. No one since Canning the Righteous has had such difficulties to contend with (a great Famine only was wanting for his cup to run over). But he subdued them all by skill, by patience, and by intrepidity. We as Indians can never perhaps be thoroughly reconciled to the seizure of Burmah, but we can understand the needs of an imperial military policy. If, however, he has annexed Burmah, he has loyally, under great difficulties and temptations, supported the independence and dignity of the Native States in India. His liberality at home has been marked. Again, under manifold embarrassments and under temptations to resentment which none but the soundest and calmest souls can resist, he has given us protection and justice. But he has favoured none at the expense of any others. *Tros Tyrinsze*, his light has been the daylight—for all; that is all who care to see. That was unpardonable sin in certain quarters. In the way of progressive Government, besides consolidating the past and maintaining the previous advances, he has given some substantial tokens and laid the foundations for large reforms in every direction. He has sympathised with our political aspirations and made liberal, if not extravagant, provision for it. All the same he is the *bête noire* of our discerning and grateful "patriots." The fact is, that he is, though warm-hearted in temperament, cautious by habitual exercise of weighty responsibilities; and though gracious beyond most men, he will not stoop to flattery or effusiveness. And, if the truth must be told, we have been decidedly spoiled by his predecessors. If the epitaph on himself by the good European Emperor—"Here lies Joseph II. who failed in everything he undertook"—suit one of them admirably, that for Lord Dufferin might well be—*Here lies one who was misunderstood in all that he essayed or achieved.* We speak only of their Indian careers, and, under any circumstances, we pray that, in God's goodness, the hour for such a tablet may, in each case, be as long-deferred as possible.

THE VICEROY'S NEW TITLE.

THERE is a great deal in a name—*pace* the good Juliet. Whatever young misses in fiction or the sillier herd of gentlemen, young and old, in real life, may say, the real philosophers hold differently. The great Bentham himself—the apostle of Utilitarianism and the foe of all kinds of superstition and nonsense—understood the importance of nomenclature. At this day, the Old Indian who is the most brilliant journalist in Great Britain, understands it even better, as endowed with an imagination and a fervid temperament to which the more creative publicist was a stranger. His paper never loses an opportunity of insisting on the value of a good name—in other than the Iagoan sense. The *Spectator*, indeed, is always great on the subject of decorations and distinctions and Nomenclology in general. But, for once, its criticism has practically failed. Our London contemporary considers the title "Earl of Ava" bestowed on the Viceroy too much for a Marquisate, for "Ava" is in history the name of the whole Burmese Empire, not of its old capital only, and an earldom of Canada, or a Marquisate of Australia, would hardly be more mouth-filling. We admit the principle, but join issue on the application. A subtle fallacy underlies the argument, and

the comparison suggested. Ava as an Empire is quite obsolete in history. The old kingdom had long since been merged in Burmah—the designation by which the country as well as the State is, and has been, for generations, known. At this day, Burmah itself has been lost, the old familiar face having, under the spelling reform of the Oriental movement, been changed in print to Barma, with the inevitable result of unsophisticated John Bull pronouncing it *Bâr-mâ*. The writer is evidently drawing upon his Indian experience of a quarter century back, when many of the older natives of Bengal, unacquainted with English still talked of the “Hâwâ Moolook”—the country of Ava. In the progress of events and the diffusion of a European tongue, that tradition has completely disappeared. For Europeans and Indians alike, Ava is now but a name of no great significance, and small is the number of those who have even heard of it. Under the circumstance, it could not be vanity that suggested that locality for a new title to the departing Viceroy. We suspect it was the phonetic and scriptural convenience, and, we may add, literary too, that recommended the name to him. A name is often a burden without being a reproach—sometimes it is a veritable nuisance. Even where such a name happens to be an inheritance, many voluntarily drop it for a better one, unless it has been rendered supportable by the associations gathered around it. Where it happens to be a condition of enjoyment of property, it is endured in patient silence. Yet, we occasionally see people assuming on their elevation to the peerage the oddest designations. The possession of an estate of the particular name does not justify the imposition on one's descendants to the remotest generation of an unpronounceable or a ludicrous label. Our Viceroy was under no such obligation and, indeed, he was scarcely the man, under any circumstances, to commit a blunder in such a matter.

We think the examples of the earldom of Canada and the Marquisate of Australia are not well put together. They do not form a class for the writer's argument. They are not at par in suggestion. Would an earldom of Canada violate the proprieties? We doubt it, particularly seeing that there were more than one Canada. The Marquisate of Australia is a different business. Australia is too great for anything short of Empire. Polynesia or Oceania can hardly, with any sense of the fitness of things, be attached to a title of less than sovereign power; still less can the great compact island in the Southern Hemisphere be granted away even on paper as a mere phrase to a subject, however exalted. Australia is a Continent not a country—far less a Province. You may just as well call a man a Duke of Asia.

It is suggested that had Lord Raglan lived, he would, after the fall of Sebastopol, marched through Russia to Petersburg and conquered, and the British would have founded another India nearer home. Was Russia a Bengal or a Burma, and the Czar a Seraj-ood-dowla or a Theebaw? Was Europe asleep? They are not the friends of Lord Raglan's memory who harp on the possibilities of his career had he lived. It was well for his peace and his reputation, that the poor used up soldier of a past era of war died so opportunely. There is a tradition in many quarters in Europe and Western Asia, that he shuffled off the mortal coil by his own act. As far as we can remember, we believe there was a mystery about the manner of his end.

To bring its objection to strong relief, the *Spectator* says: “The Queen might almost as well have created Lord Raglan, if he had survived and been victorious, Earl of Russia.” Here, too, the hypothesis is not to the point, and is rendered nugatory by the qualification. The idea of the Queen creating—say, even almost creating—Lord Raglan, if he had survived and been victorious, Earl of Russia, is neither here nor there. Such a creation would have been more absurd than if Lord Dufferin had been created Earl, Marquis, or Duke of Burma, for the simple reason that the one creation could not be made and the other could. Not only all Europe would have laughed the British down, but Russia would not have permitted such an impertinence, and war to the knife would have been the consequence of persistence in any such foolish play of title-making—a war in which Russia would have been strengthened by the alliance of many Powers and the voice of civilization. There is no similitude between the two cases. Burma has been conquered and annexed and absorbed within the British dominions—the so-called Burman Empire with all its Provinces and appanages, including the ancient Raj of Ava. Whereas, Lord Raglan, considering the vast extent of Russia and the distance of its capital from the seat of war on the Black Sea, may be said to have been dancing the fly's dance on the end of the Great Northern Bear's tail.

The *Mirror* comes to the rescue of Lord Dufferin, but not in kindness. Its care is for itself. It consoles its wounded heart with the remark—“This is a far-fetched objection characteristic of the *Spectator*. If Ava was once the seat of Empire, it is now a small village, and is neither a capital nor a seat of Empire.”

And why not an Earl of Russia? That is, supposing the Empire were conquered and annexed, or dismembered. The writer selects the more insignificant title to produce a point. If he went a rung or two higher up the ladder, he would be confronted by the old Duke of Muscovy.

We do not see anything in the objection. The new title is very far from being without precedent, European or Indian. Lord Amherst was created Earl of Arracan—the Burma Province he conquered—and Arracan had been a great and powerful kingdom even before Burma or Ava, and had not in 1826 been yet reduced to a mere name.

The Viceroy had not much room for choice. Indo-Chinese names do not sound pleasantly to European ears, and he had to take care against being possibly confounded with the Marquis Tseng. Besides, he was restricted to Upper Burma. The Viceroy could not well abandon the title by which he is best known to fame. Dufferin is a handsome name, but being already handicapped with three syllables, he could not go in for another long affair. Under the circumstances, the selection has been a lucky hit. Ava is not only a mouth-filling name but also a sweet-smelling one, and a musical one into the bargain.

SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE MARQUIS
OF DUFFERIN AND AVA AT THE ST.
ANDREW'S DINNER.

Calcutta, 30th November 1888.

Gentlemen, before attempting to return thanks for the kind and hearty manner in which you have drunk my health, I feel that, above all things, it is necessary that I should justify my presence amongst you upon this occasion. This is especially a Scotch dinner, and it is held in commemoration of an eminent personage, who was next door to having been born and bred in Scotland (*laughier*). Well, Gentlemen, I may claim as much right to

Hooghly Floating Bridge is opened for egress and ingress of bulkier craft and masted shipping. Thus was Mr. Bonnerjea saved. But there is no escape from other forms of the same enthusiasm. He has to submit to missiles darted from a distance. Cheap postage has its evil as well as its good. Mr. Bonnerjea must have received a mass of addresses and letters and no end of postcards. These he could lay aside without reading. Then there are the rockets and fire-balloons let off in every direction in his honour. How on earth could he help noticing them? He has heard the noise—usually the shriek—and seen the fire—usually the smoke—before he realizes that he, poor soul, is the object of all the activity and the attentions. He is not yet prepared to elect to retire to a sylvan nook or a Himalayan cavern, and so long as he lives in the world he cannot well keep his eyes and ears shut. He must look at the papers—those at least of the party with which he has cast in his lot—and it is these latter in which he is doomed to be perpetually reminded of his great doings during his last visit to Europe. The prose of these rewards is a trial sufficient for the patience of a practising barrister who has got daily to face his fellows in Court or in Club, but the poetry—he is truly to be commiserated on the pottery! Here are some specimens of

"WELCOME TO MESSRS. EARDLEY NORTON, AND WOMESH CHUNDER BONNERJEE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

All hail to you, my country's faithful friends,
From Britain's isle, on which our weal depends,
And where you worked so well for Bharat land,
That we can, sure, achieve a success grand.

You've shown you are my country's trusty stays;
This wide extensive land rings with the praise
Of you, who served her in the time of need,
And proved yourselves her champions true indeed."

We give another whole piece of—genuine national pottery:—

"Hail, meek and able Hindu mild?
Our Peerless Norton, come!
Come back, great England's worthy child!
Our Bonnerjee, come home!

A nation's gratitude and love
Await you in this place;
Naught can our thankfulness remove,
We are a grateful race.

Ye, India's sons, rejoice! Arise,
To welcome Bonnerjee
And Norton, from that land where lies,
The home of all that's free!

With shouts of joy, come, let us meet
Our friends, returning here!
With cheerful looks, come, let us greet
The men we hold so dear!

Just England has begun to know
Our people's woes aright;
These two did labour much to show
Things in their proper light.

May we receive more rights so just,
As righteous Ripon gave!
Our hopes in England's justice rest,
And in our Congress brave.

May He, the Wise Almighty Lord,
Show'r bliss upon these shores!
May He His help to us accord,
And aid us in our course!

Our end and aim is freedom true,
Our watch-word—peace to all!
We wish each man should have his due!
We wish for no one's fall!"

Fall, to be sure!

REFERRING to Lord Dufferin's speech at the St. Andrew's dinner, Mr. J. M. Maclean put the question in the House of Commons—Whether most of the Native Princes and leaders of the Indian Mussulman community had represented to the Government of India the evil effects that would arise from the speeches made by delegates of the Congress and from the pamphlets published and distributed by them, and what the Government of India intended to do regarding further meetings of the Congress. The answer was short. Sir John Gorst said that Government had no information as yet regarding the intentions of the Government of India in the matter.

THE following honors—all personal distinctions—have been *Gazetted*:—

Raja.—Sardar Hira Singh, Bahraich District, Oudh;

Kunwar Shiam Singh, Tajpur, Bijnor District, N.W. P.

Khan Bahadur.—Shaban Ali Khan, of Salempur, in the Lucknow District, Oudh.

Rai Bahadur.—Chaudhri Debi Singh, of Asaura in the Meerut District, North-Western Provinces.

Sardar.—The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur Behechardas Veharidas Desai, of Bombay [Presidency.]

THE Conference on Provincial Finance will meet shortly in this city. Mr. Westland will guide the deliberations. Only four local Governments will be represented, namely, Madras by the Hon'ble H. E. Stokes; Bombay by the Hon'ble J. R. Richey; Bengal by the Hon'ble C. P. L. Macaulay; and the N. W. Provinces by Mr. R. Smeaton.

THE Hooghly bridge connecting Calcutta and Howrah has been declared free from the 1st January next. Could not the advent of Lord Lansdowne be associated with the abandonment of an inconvenience to the travelling public?

THE holy village of Bhatpara, on the sacred Ganga—the abode of the spiritual guides (Gooroos) of the Brahmanocracy of Bengal—within the Naihati Municipality is up in arms, for the extension to it of the latrine sections of the Municipal law. They evidently do not appreciate or require the night-soil service, which is being forced on them. The principal inhabitants are loud in their complaint. They are too poor living on the bounty of others—to pay for a service which is calculated to confine human dirt within their own sacred precincts and to introduce in the village new-comers whom they would avoid, whose very presence is contamination. The resolution asking the local Government to extend these provisions of the law, they say, was passed at a meeting of the Commissioners in which only the number required for a *quorum* were present, and in which the members of the village were not. We do not suppose sufficient notice of the meeting was not given, but certainly it would have been better if the resolution were carried at a large meeting, in the presence of representatives of all the place most interested. We do not know what induced the Chairman and his colleagues who voted with him to carry the introduction of a doubtful sanitary measure. We hope they were not led away by the rage of the hour. Are they satisfied that the natural conservancy is worse than the Municipal. The night-soil service of the law may be a good thing for crowded towns, but is it necessarily good for all Mofussil places? In most cases, the remedy proves worse than the disease. It would have been more to the purpose, if those who night-soiled the roads and passages, were tempted to resort to public latrines for which, we understand, provision was used to be made annually in the budget, and the rest enjoined not to be a nuisance to themselves and their neighbours. The earth-closet is the best of all closets, and if it can be made general, nothing like it. In jails, this system prevails, and if free people resort to it, what harm? They ought to be encouraged. The trenching-grounds now-a-days in vogue are an abomination. We hope these, at any rate, will not be inflicted on Bhatpara.—We shall return to the subject.

We have also received complaints in regard to the Income Tax assessment, but more hereafter.

THE workers under electric light of 1,00,000 candle power get a kind of disease characterized by a painful sensation in the throat, face and

temple, irritation about the eyes, coppery red colour of the skin, which subsequently puts off in five days. It is the excess of light and not the heat which produces the nervous symptoms.

REFERRING to the recent article of the *Englishman* on the Congress the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes—

"We cannot, however, agree with the *Englishman* that the Mussalmans have any strong good sense. Only a hundred years ago, the Mussalmans were masters of Bengal. The Nawab Nazim made over the task of collecting revenue to his English allies and retained the control of the criminal administration in his hands. Why do not the Mussalmans, if they have any good sense, insist upon the British power to fulfil the terms of the treaty entered into by that power with the Nawab Nazim of Bengal? Indeed, if the present Nawab, who is no longer a Nazim, had been paid his just dues, he would be able to provide for thousands of Mussalmans, who are now starving. They complain that the *mashim* fund has not been properly utilized. But what is the *mashim* fund compared with the fund of the Nawab Nazim. Indeed, there may be some difficulty on the part of the Government to make over the control of the criminal administration of the country to the Mussalmans, but there can be no difficulty whatever in paying the Nawab his just dues. If the Mussalmans really possess any good sense, they should continue to force the Government to pay its just debts to the Nawab. This done, the Mussalmans will have ample funds to establish Mosques and Madrasas, and provide for thousands of their co-religionists."

"But what is the *mashim* fund?" we ask in the *Patrika's* own words, before we can follow its comparison. We know all about the Nizamat, including all its funds, but never heard of this. Indeed, from the suggested comparison "with the fund of the Nawab Nazim," it is possibly something distinct. Is it so?

That note has other startling assertions. Englishmen may, after more than two centuries' misunderstanding and injustice, find it necessary to flatter the Mussulmans in India while they still in Europe abuse and bully the Turks. But surely it is no part of our urgent duty, as Hindus, to join issue on the language of courtly palaver. At any rate, the best method of rescuing our Mahomedan brethren from the seductions of the charmers is not by trying to prove that they do not deserve the compliments paid them.

But supposing it were necessary to show the *Englishman* wrong, even at the expense of proving the Mussulmans fools, the way to set about it is not by flying in the face of all history. "Only a hundred years ago," we are told, "the Mussulmans were masters of Bengal." Were they, so late as that?

THREE memberships have fallen vacant in the Bengal Legislative Council, by the efflux of time. Messrs. Allen and Macaulay, and Moulvi Abdool Jubber have gone out. The first two have been re-elected, and the Mahomedan community will now be represented as best it may by Prince Ferokh Shah. Dr. Gurudas Banerjee's place in Council will be filled by Dr. Rashbehary Ghose. This is an unexceptional selection, which will carry the whole public with it. It will, we suspect, be generally regarded as a sort of compensation, however inadequate, for repeatedly overlooking the claims of the ablest of the Pleader bar. Anyhow, we congratulate Sir S. Bayley on the discernment shown by him in hitting on so proper, though rather unknown, because unpushing, a man as Baboo Rashbehary, to succeed so successful a Councillor—so ready a debater as Baboo Gooroodas Banerjee, now a worthy Judge of the High Court. The propriety of the succession extends to the veriest externals. Both are graduates of the same university, both eminent vakils, both Doctors of Law, and both have been Tagore Professors. If Dr. Banerjee is senior in the profession by one year, Dr. Ghosh has been longer in the High Court bar, at the same time that he is the Senior Doctor and the elder Emeritus Professor. If Mr. Banerjee has been called to the Bench, Mr. Ghosh was at least in the running for the judicial office.

BEING their last in Calcutta, the week has been an extremely busy one with Lord and Lady Dufferin. What with addresses, deputations, interviews and preparations for return journey, their Excellencies have

had hardly left breathing time. They took their final farewell of Calcutta society at the Garden Party on Friday. The Viceroy stayed till he had bade good-bye to the last of the multitudinous guests on the grounds.

MR. J. E. D. EZRA succeeds Dr. Mahendralal Sircar in the shrievalty of Calcutta. A good selection. Mr. Ezra is above the emoluments of the office, which will now be considerably curtailed. The *Mirror*, as is usual with it in the case of all appointments, is wroth with the appointer and ready to call the appointee names. It complains that the rulers of the land delight to torment it with surprises. As for poor Mr. Ezra, he is nobody—not even an one anna *Mirror* without the mercury at the back. It is now all love for the Faithful, and would have preferred a Mahomedan to a person representing "a really 'microscopical' community of Calcutta, if, indeed the local Jews take him for their representative." Of course, it is too opaque to see Jews other than those of Calcutta. Mr. Ezra need not be disconcerted by the comments of a paper whose abuse has come to be almost a *sine qua non* of respectability and worth. A millionaire who knows the use of wealth can afford to be amused by such attack.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1888.

THE MEETING OF THE PLANETS.

TO-DAY is a noteworthy day in our Calendar—the day of the Grand Conjunction. The hour fixed by the astronomers was after 4-33 in the afternoon, and exactly at that moment—such is the accuracy of science or punctuality of civilization—the particular planet from the Western heavens was visible at Howrah station. There, as all along its course over India, it was hailed with the joyous acclamations and demonstrations naturally called forth by such an auspicious phenomenon. Soon it came, not rushing like a meteor, but quietly and kindly, over the broad still Hooghly and over the metropolis, greeted as before, by thousands of welcoming watchers, to meet the fixed star at Government House. It was no meeting of Greek and Greek when comes the tug of war. It was a meeting of peace. There was no conflict or clash, and, therefore, no crash or crush. The two great stars met in a fraternal embrace. There was no danger to themselves or their neighbours. And now for the moment they are so merged, the one in the other, as to be indistinguishable. And so they will remain till the hour comes for separation on Monday morning, when the planet that has completed its four years' course in the Indian sky will move forward on its Western journey.

Not without purpose do we thus dwell upon this union of the heavenly bodies. For all who are interested in the progress of mankind, it is a cheering and enlivening sight—this friendly mutual approach and harmonious blending. To us of the East, the pleasure of seeing it is saddened by the reflection that it is a phenomenon confined to the Astronomy of the Western heavens. At any rate, in our indigenous history, as in ruder times and spheres in Europe, a peaceful succession to even a salaried office, specially when it is a great office of power, is rather the exception than the rule. Perhaps this was one of the cardinal efficient causes, if not the cause, of appointments and places degenerating into hereditaments. This was peculiarly the case with distant governments, except when the central authority was unusually wide awake and persistent—in fine, strong. These offices were not even tenable during good behaviour, being simply tenancies at will, so to say.

your consanguinity as St. Andrew himself; for in those distant days to which we both belong, I also, as represented by my remote forefathers, was a countryman of your own (*applause*). Indeed, I may still call myself by that honourable appellation, the only difference being that I have been very much improved by having been an Irishman during the last three hundred years (*cheers and laughter*). You, Gentlemen, represent the raw material in its protoplasmic condition; ---Mr. Barbour, my eminent Financial Colleague, whom I am happy to see keeping me in countenance, and myself, are specimens of the manufactured article, and the developed organism (*laughter and cheers*). But, for all that, the old Adam ---I do not allude to the Father of the human race, but to one Adam, an ancestor of my own, who like his namesake, was turned out of your Northern Paradise, and that, too, for being too submissive to a lady, who was not even his wife, but Mary Queen of Scots (*laughter*)---the old Adam I say, will still betray itself and kindle a glow of brotherly enthusiasm in my breast whenever I find myself surrounded by a company of kindly Scotchmen (*cheers*). And now, Gentlemen, having made good my *locus standi* amongst you,---my foot being, so to speak, on my native heath---I desire, from the bottom of my heart, and with all the earnestness that words are capable of displaying, to convey to you my deep sense of your goodness in having extended to me so friendly and so gracious a welcome (*cheers*). Although I cannot take credit to myself for all the appreciative and indulgent encomiums which your Chairman has been pleased to pass upon my administration, I am not the less sensible of the good-will and sympathy implied by the enthusiastic cheers, which greeted his utterances. It is quite true, as Sir Aleck Wilson has observed, that, in the four years of my Viceroyalty, I have had greater and more unexpected difficulties to contend with than have troubled the serenity of most of my immediate predecessors. The first and the greatest of these has undoubtedly been the fall in the value of silver, which, by depleting the revenues of India to the extent of more than three millions a year, has crippled the energies of my Government in every direction, and imposed upon me the ungracious duty of---well, I will not damp the gaiety of this joyous festival by alluding further to so disagreeable a subject (*laughter and cheers*). Indeed, I do not intend to trouble you to-night with egotistical references to my own administration, or with any attempt to vindicate the general policy of the Government of India. The verdict upon both has passed out of my hands, and it will be the pen of the Historian that will determine whether my colleagues and myself have succeeded in any adequate degree in contributing to the peace and security of the country, in dissipating some formidable dangers, and in inaugurating such reforms and improvements in its administration as the time and the circumstances of the case either permitted or required (*applause*). Of one thing, at all events, I am certain---we have done a great deal more in these directions than anybody imagines. Still there is one misapprehension into which the public has fallen, which I am desirous of taking this opportunity of correcting once for all, lest it should crystallize into a popular belief, and that is, that the difficulties which we have had to encounter in Burma arose from an attempt of the Indian Government to effect the conquest of that kingdom in too economical a manner, or, to use a vulgar expression, "on the cheap." Such an idea is entirely unfounded. There may have been mistakes, but they did not arise from that source. On the contrary, the Government of India has never refused, from first to last, the local authorities of Burma a single requisition, whether for money, for troops, for civil officers; or for police, which they have ever submitted to us (*cheers*). Nay more, we encouraged them from time to time to make further demands on us in every one of these respects. With regard to the strength of the original force, it must be remembered that the expedition to Mandalay was essentially a riverine expedition, and that the number of troops that could be despatched upon it was limited by the riverine transport at our disposal. As a matter of fact, owing to the existence of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, the facilities of transport were very considerable; but, for all that, its capacity was strained to its utmost extent. Happily, however, the forces it could accommodate were amply sufficient for the immediate purpose in view, as was shown by the surrender of the Burmese army, the capture of the king, and the occupation of his capital in the course of a fortnight (*applause*). The very day that Mandalay was taken we telegraphed to both our civil and military representatives to enquire whether or no the additional reinforcements which we had ready to start in support should be sent off; but the difficulties which subsequently occurred were not difficulties which could be overcome by the application of mere brute force as represented by numbers. They were inherent in the very nature of the case,---the enormous extent of the country, its complete disorganisation, the absence of all roads, and the vastness and impracticability of the jungles. Impediments like these could not be successfully dealt with at once, especially as the rainy season soon intervened to hamper our endeavours. Roads had to be cut, telegraphic communications established, military posts constructed, and a hundred other preliminary arrangements introduced. Above all, a Military Police had to be organised, for the Government of India does not keep on hand, as a grocer does

pepper, a ready-made supply of Military Police for casual emergencies; but such a body, who are the real restorers of order, have to be painfully and laboriously enlisted and drilled. Even so, as Sir Aleck Wilson has stated, within a little more than two years and a half, we have succeeded not only in tranquillising the country, but in furnishing it forth with all the appliances of a civilized State (*cheers*). All the big dacoit bands have been dispersed, and their leaders disposed of. Crime in Lower Burmah is now less than it was before the war, and even the return of the dry season has not shown any perceptible recurrence of it in Upper Burmah. It is true, during the winter, we shall have to punish some of the wild mountain tribes both in the north and in the west, who have been raiding Burmese villages and head-hunting on Burmese territory. But these troubles are as common to the borders of India as they are to those of Burma. If we remember that, when Lord Dalhousie took possession of Pegu---though he undoubtedly displayed in everything he undertook the greatest vigour and energy, and though Pegu was only a sixth of the size of the country that we have recently dominated---it took him seven or eight years to reduce it to reasonable submission, I think we may be satisfied with the result (*loud applause*). Indeed, it was only the other day that I was reading a life of Lord Minto, who mentions incidentally, that in his time whole districts within twenty miles of Calcutta were at the mercy of dacoits, and this after the English had been more than fifty years in the occupation of Bengal; while, even in our own days, large bands of robbers in Central India are baffling all the efforts of the Indore Government to put an end to their depredations. The fact is, dacoity is a peculiar sort of crime, and one far more difficult to deal with than even the organised opposition of regular armies. I have been led to dilate more fully upon this subject than I had intended; but I have felt it my duty to do so, not so much in the interests of the Indian Administration, as from a desire to vindicate the conduct of those eminent Civil and Military officers who, in the teeth of a great deal of misapprehension, have been carrying out with exceptional ability, and with acknowledged success, their responsible and thankless duties (*cheers*). And now, Gentlemen, what else am I to say to you? As a rule, I do not think it is a desirable thing for the Viceroy of India to make speeches. I have carefully avoided doing so as much as possible; but perhaps, as I am so near the day of my dissolution, I may be permitted to utter a few words of warning and advice to those to whose affairs I have been giving such unremitting attention for so long a period. You will understand, therefore, that it is not so much the Viceroy that is addressing you as a departing, pale, and attenuated shade, or rather shall we say, some intelligent traveller who has come to India for three months, with the intention of writing an encyclopedic work on its Government and its people, and who is therefore able to speak in a spirit of infallibility denied to us lesser men (*loud laughter*). Well then, Gentlemen, what is India? It is an Empire, equal in size, if Russia be excluded, to the entire continent of Europe, with a population of 250 million souls. This population is composed of a large number of distinct nationalities, professing various religions, practising diverse rites, speaking different languages---the Census Report says there are 106 different Indian tongues---not dialects, mind you---of which 18 are spoken by more than a million persons---while many of them are still further separated from each other by discordant prejudices, by conflicting social usages, and even antagonistic material interests. Perhaps, the most patent peculiarity of our Indian "Cosmos" is its division into two mighty political communities---the Hindus numbering 190 millions, and the Mahomedans, a nation of 50 millions---whose distinctive characteristics, whether religious, social, or ethnological, it is of course unnecessary for me to refer to before such an audience as the present. But to these two great divisions must be added a host of minor nationalities---though minor is a misleading term, since most of them may be numbered by millions---who, though some are included in the two broader categories I have mentioned, are as completely differentiated from each other as are the Hindus from the Mahomedans,---such as the Sikhs, with their warlike habits and traditions, and their theocratic enthusiasm;---the Rohillas, the Pathans, the Assamese,---the Biluchees, and the other wild and martial tribes on our frontiers,---the hillmen dwelling in the folds of the Himalayas;---our subjects in Burma, Mongol in race and Buddhist in religion;---the Khonds, Mairs, and Bhels, and other non-Aryan peoples in the centre and south of India,---and the enterprising Parsees with their rapidly developing manufactures and commercial interests. Again, amongst these numerous communities may be found at one and the same moment all the various stages of civilization through which mankind has passed from the prehistoric ages to the present day. At one end of the scale we have the naked savage hillman, with his stone weapons, his head hunting, his polyandrous habits and his childish superstitions; and at the other, the Europeanized Native gentleman, with his refinement and polish, his literary culture, his Western philosophy, and his advanced political ideas, while between the two lie layer upon layer, or in close juxtaposition; wandering communities with their flocks of goats and moving tents; collections of undisciplined warriors, with

their blood feuds, their clan organization and loose tribal government; feudal Chiefs and Barons with their picturesque retainers, their seigniorial jurisdiction, and their mediæval modes of life; and modernized country gentlemen and enterprising merchants and manufacturers, with their well-managed estates and prosperous enterprises. Besides all these, who are under our direct administration, the Government of India is required to exercise a certain amount of supervision over the one hundred and seventeen Native States, with their Princely Rulers, their autocratic executives, their independent jurisdictions, and their fifty millions of inhabitants. The mere enumeration of these diversified elements must suggest to the most unimaginative mind a picture of as complicated a social and political organisation as has ever tasked human ingenuity to govern and administer (*loud applause*). But, even within India itself, we have not reached the limits of our accountability, for we are bound to provide for the safety and welfare not only of Her Majesty's Hindu, Mahomedan, and other Native subjects, but also of the large East Indian community, of the indigenous Christian Churches, of the important planting and manufacturing interests which are scattered over the face of the country, as also to secure the property and lives of all the British residents in India, men, women, and children, whether employed in the service of the Government or pursuing independent avocations, in the midst of the alien and semi-civilized multitudes whose peaceable and orderly behaviour cannot, under all circumstances, be implicitly relied on (*cheers*). To these obligations must also be added the duty of watching over the enormous commercial interests of the mother-country, represented by a guaranteed capital of over two hundred and twenty millions of pounds sterling, which, to the great benefit of India, has been either lent to the State or sunk in Indian Railways and similar enterprises; for, it would be criminal to ignore the responsibility of the Government towards those who have sunk large sums of money in the development of Indian resources on the faith of official guarantees, or who have invested their capital in the Indian funds at the invitation of the Imperial Indian authorities. The same considerations apply with almost equal force to that further vast amount of capital which is employed by private British enterprise in manufactures, in tea-planting, and in the indigo, jute, and similar industries, on the assumption that English rule and English justice will remain dominant in India (*loud applause*). If, again, we turn our eyes outwards, it will be found that our external obligations are hardly less onerous and imperative than those confronting us from within. India has a land frontier of nearly 6,000 miles, and a seaboard of about 9,000 miles. On the east she is continuous with Siam and China, on the north with Tibet, Bhootan, and Nepal, and on the west she marches, at all events diplomatically, with Russia. On her coasts are many rich and prosperous seaports—Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Rangoon—and every year we are made more painfully aware to how serious an extent our contiguity with foreign nations, whether civilized or uncivilized, and the complications arising both out of Eastern and

Western politics, may expose us to attack, and of the necessity of walking both warily and wisely in respect of our international relations, and of taking those precautions, however onerous or expensive, which are incumbent on every nation that finds itself in contact with enterprising military monarchies or rival maritime powers (*cheers*). It is then for the outward protection and for the internal control,—it is for the welfare, good government, and progress of this congeries of nations, religions, tribes, and communities, with the tremendous latent forces and disruptive potentialities which they contain, that the Government of India is answerable; and it is in reference to the ever-shifting and multiplying requirements of this complicated political organisation, that it has been called upon from time to time to shape and modify its system of administration. In the earlier stages of England's connection with India, and even after the force of circumstances had transmuted the East India Company of merchants into an Imperial Executive, the ignorance and the disorganisation of the Peninsula consequent upon the anarchy which followed the collapse of the Mahomedan régime, necessitated the maintenance of a strong uncompromising despotism, with the view of bringing order out of chaos, and a systematised administration out of the confusion and lawlessness which were then universally prevalent. But such principles of Government, however necessary, have never been congenial to the instinct or habits of the English people (*applause*). As soon as the circumstances of the case permitted, successive statesmen, both at home and in India itself, employed themselves from time to time in softening the severity of the system under which our dominion was originally established, and strenuous efforts were repeatedly made, not only to extend to Her Majesty's subjects in India the same civil rights and privileges which are enjoyed by Her Majesty's subjects at Home, but to admit them, as far as was possible, to a share in the management of their own affairs (*cheers*). The proof of this is plainly written in our recent history. It is seen in our legal codes, which secure to all Her Majesty's subjects, without distinction of race or creed or class, equality before the law. (*cheers*). It is found in the establishment of Local Legislative Councils a quarter of a century ago, wherein a certain number of leading natives were associated with the Government in enacting measures suitable to local wants. It lies at the basis of the great principle of decentralised finance, which has prepared the way for the establishment of increased local responsibility. It received a most important development in the Municipal legislation of Lord Northbrook's administration. It took a still fuller and more perfect expression during the administration of my distinguished predecessor, in the Municipal and Local Boards Acts; and it has acquired a further illustration in the recommendations of the Public Service Commission, recently sent home by the Government of India, in accordance with which more than a hundred offices hitherto reserved to the Covenanted Service would be thrown open to the Provincial Service, and thus placed within the reach of our native fellow-subjects in India (*applause*). [To be continued.]

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Sealed tenders for supply of miscellaneous stores during the Quarter ending the 31st March, 1889, will be received by the Vice-Chairman and will be opened by him in the presence of tenderers who may wish to attend, at 2 P. M., on the 13th instant.

2. Forms of tender and lists of stores required can be had on application.

UDOY NARAIN SINGHA,
Superintendent of Stores.

5th December, 1888.

Dufferin Memorial Fund.

	Rs.
Amount already advertised	... 60,867
H. H. the Maharajah of Travancore, G.C.S.I.	... 3,000
The Manager, Dighapatiah Wards Estate	... 200
H. H. the Rajah of Bhinga	... 50
Kumar Ranajit Sinha	... 200
Total	... 64,317

Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "MARGUERITE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 7th inst., and on Tuesday the 11th idem the Steamer "OUDH" will leave Calcutta for Cachar.

All cargo for shipment by either of the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannauth Ghat the day previous to the vessel's leaving Calcutta.

DHUBRI & DEBROOGHUR MAIL SERVICE.

The Steamers of this Service leave Dhubri daily immediately on arrival of the mails from Calcutta, and are connected with the E. B. S. Railway for booking of traffic through to river stations.

GOALUNDO AND DEBROOGHUR DESPATCH SERVICE.

A special bi-weekly service of Steamers is maintained between Goalundo and Debrooghur, the steamers leaving Goalundo on Sundays and Thursdays, and Debrooghur on Mondays and Fridays.

All particulars as to rates of freight and passage by all the above Services to be had on application to

MACNEILL & CO.,
Agents.

1-2, Clive Ghat Street, Calcutta.

BEETHAM'S

GLYCERINE - AND - CUCUMBER

For INDIA and all HOT CLIMATES this sweetly scented emollient Milk is INVALUABLE
IT KEEPS the SKIN COOL and REFRESHED in the HOTTEST WEATHER,
Removes and prevents all SUNBURN, REDNESS, FRECKLES, TAN, etc., and
RENDERS the SKIN DELICATELY SOFT, SMOOTH and WHITE.

It entirely prevents it from becoming DRY and WRINKLED, and PRESERVES the
COMPLEXION from the scorching effects of the SUN and WIND more effectually than any
other preparation. The IRRITATION caused by the BITES and STINGS of INSECTS is
wonderfully allayed by its use. For imparting that soft velvety feeling to the skin, this
delightful preparation has no equal! Sold by all Chemists.

Sole Makers M. BEETHAM & SON, Chemists, Cheltenham, England.

CALCUTTA AGENTS: SCOTT, THOMPSON & CO.

Reis and Rayyet

(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1888.

} No. 353

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE OLD MAN'S REVERIE.

SOOTH'D by the self-same ditty, see
The infant and the sire ;
That smiling on the nurse's knee,
This weeping by the fire ;
Where unobserved he finds a joy
To list its plaintive tone,
And silently his thoughts employ
On sorrows all his own.

At once it comes, by memory's power,
The loved habitual theme,
Reserved for twilight's darkling hour,
A voluntary dream ;
And as with thoughts of former years
His weakly eyes o'erflow,
None wonders at an old man's tears,
Or seeks his grief to know.

Think not he dotes because he weeps ;
Conclusion, ah ! how wrong !
Reason with grief joint empire keeps,
Indissolubly strong ;
And oft in age a helpless pride
With jealous weakness pines,
(To second infancy allied)
And every wo refines.

How busy now his teeming brain,
Those murmuring lips declare ;
Scenes never to return again
Are represented there.

* * * *

He ponders on his infant years,
When first his race began,
And, oh ! how wonderful appears
The destiny of man !
How swift those lovely hours were past,
In darkness closed how soon ;
As if a winter's night o'ercast
The brightest summer's noon.

His withered hand he holds to view,
With nerves once firmly strung,
And scarcely can believe it true
That ever he was young.
And as he thinks o'er all his ills,
Disease, neglect, and scorn,
Strange pity of himself he feels,
Thus aged and forlorn.

HOPE.

FROM THE GERMAN OF SCHILLER.

How many there are who sing and dream
Of happier seasons coming,
And ever is fancy, to catch a beam
Of a Golden Era, roaming.
The world may grow old—and young again—
And the hope of a better shall still remain.

Hope comes with life at its dawning hour ;
Hope sports with the infant creeper ;
Hope cheers up the youth, with her magic power,
And when, too, the gray-haired weeper
Has closed in the grave his weary round,
He plants the tree of hope on the mound.

It is not an empty, vain deceit,
In the brains of fools created ;
It speaks to the soul of a state more meet,
Where its longings shall all be sated.
And the promise the in-dwelling voice thus makes
To the hoping soul—it never breaks.

HAMLET IS THE NATION.

FREILIGRATH'S "DEUTSCHLAND IST HAMLET."

Translated from the German.

Deutschland is Hamlet. Nightly round
His walls doth buried Freedom stalk ;
With mute appeal, in woe profound,
Crossing the warders on their walk.
There stands the ghost in steel arrayed,
And to the doubting falterer saith,
"Be my avenger, draw thy blade !
My sleeping ear was drugged to death."

The story of that deed accurst
Through all his tortured soul doth send
A dreadful light, a burning thirst
For vengeance :—aye, but mark the end !
He ponders, plans ; what should he do ?
His weak heart wavers, doubt assails him ;
For deed of prompt and vigorous hue
The prompt and vigorous spirit fails him.

He has lived in fact too like a drone,
Lying and reading long abed ;
His blood wants motion, and he's grown
Fat, heavy, scant of breath ; his head
With metaphysics crammed ; a mere
Do-nothing, transcendental thinker ;
Of, Wittenberg, thy lore, thy beer,
He has been a too assiduous drinker.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

So lacking resolution, he
 Pretends he 's crazed, trusts all to time,
 Soliloquizes plenteously,
 And breathes his choler out in rhyme ;
 In pantomime he vents it too ;
 And, once seized with a fighting fit,
 He sticks Polonius Kotzebue,
 And lets the right man go unhit.

Thus lives he sadly, dreamily,
 And still his own faint heart impeaches ;
 He lets them send him over sea,
 And comes back armed with—caustic speeches.
 If bitter words could kill the king,
 None more expert than he to use 'em ;
 But downright action ? That's a thing
 Of which his worst foes can't accuse him.

At last his sword is fairly out :
 Something he will do now or never.
 Alas, five acts to bring about
 This tardy and ill-starred endeavour !
 Lifeless beside his felon foes,
 The self-undone, behold he lies ;
 And Fortinbras, while none oppose,
 Walks in and makes the realm his prize.

Thank God, *we* 're not yet come to that,
Our fifth act is not begun.
 Beware, my hero, lest as pat
 Even to the end the likeness run !
 Here sit we hoping, hoping still ;
 O for one proof of manhood ! Haste
 With heart and hand, with wit and will
 To right the poor ghost whilst thou mayst.

Strike while 't is time ; strike bravely now !
 Ere treacherous Laertes come
 With poisoned blade from France, and thou
 Be foully slain ; ere trump and drum
 An army from the north proclaim
 Heirs of thy spoils ;—as for the region
 Whence we may now expect the same,
 I greatly doubt if it's Norwegian.

But one resolve ! Away with sloth !
 Tread valiantly the path before thee !
 Bethink thee of thy sacred oath ;
 Think whose the voice that doth implore thee !
 Why all this quibbling sophistry ?
 But can I chide, fantastic schemer ?
 Myself am but a part of thee,
 Thou evermore unready dreamer !

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

THE First Levée of the new Viceroy, as was expected, was a crowded one. The Private Entrée List gives a total of Europeans and Asiatics at 103, 28 whereof were Natives. Europeans, including in that term such of the Natives who affect European style in name and costume, who were admitted through Public Entrée, were 752 in number, the new Presentations being 158, and the Unavoidably Absent 211. The Native List gives much lower figures. Public Entrée 243, New Presentation, 93 and Unavoidably Absent 106. The Europeans mustered strong, the total number who passed or meant to pass before Lord Lansdowne being 1196. Whereas the Native total is only 470. The hour fixed for the Levée was 9-30 at night, and it closed at 11-30.

THE Drawing Room, much less crowded than the Levée, was a brilliant affair. The fair ones with their fairer costumes of all colors made the scene picturesque. Forty of them were of Private Entrée, 179 Public, 109 New Presentations and 112 could not be present—a total of only 440.

THE *Indian Daily News* of the 20th has a wise article on the Levée. Our contemporary gives due prominence to the discomforts of, and discourtesies at, that dangerous Durbar of the European type. The whole article is worth study, both within and without Government House. We have space only for the concluding portion :—

"We hear complaints also of the presence of people who have no claim to be present on such occasions. On this subject we are not in a position to say anything authoritatively. We understand that there are lines drawn which the etiquette of St. James's requires to be observed. These rules were somewhat relaxed during the time of a popular Viceroy, who said it was not his wish to exclude any one who was respectable, and who desired to show respect to the Queen's representative. We have been informed that orders were subsequently sent out to adhere strictly to the practice of the Court of St. James. Whether this has been done, we cannot say. There has been an opinion expressed frequently of recent years that the list would bear weeding with advantage.

Another complaint we approach with some delicacy, but do not on that account forbear to name it, hoping that the object will not be misunderstood. It is well known that the full dress of Europeans is of a sombre hue, and that our native fellow-subjects generally dress in a way that lends picturesque effect to any assembly. We have no desire that they should do otherwise. For the most part, they dress most becomingly, lending colour, richness, brilliancy, and variety to the scene. This they do not only traditionally, but as a matter of respect to the assembly of which they form a part, and especially to the representative of the Sovereign. But it was remarked that many natives were present on Monday night, who must have forgotten what was due to the occasion. They are not expected to appear in swallow-tails or to sport white kid gloves. But there is an obligation on their part to appear in a style becoming the ceremony, which many of them failed to do. We put it to their fellow-countrymen whether it was decent to pass before the Viceroy and his court in costumes more befitting a costermonger than an Indian gentleman. Some wore white trousers, which, from their crumpled and soiled condition, must have had at least two days' wear. Others had checked or colored continuations, with their shoulders enveloped in faded shawls that had seen many days, or in a species of nondescript over-coats which, like Tennyson's words, 'half-revealed and half-concealed the soul within.' Others, again, were not conspicuous for the purity of their linen, dirty shirt-cuffs peeping beneath velvet robes, while not a few had their necks swathed in mufflers, which, however comfortable outside, certainly ought not to have been taken into the Throne Room, and worn in the presence of the Viceroy. The head-dresses of some looked as though they had seen many winters, or even summers, judging from the evidences of perspiration which dimmed their lustre. We do not ask or require that every native gentleman who attends Government House shall be clothed in purple and fine linen, or be resplendent with jewels. But, apart from the respect which every gentleman owes to himself and his own position, we do claim that proper respect shall be paid to the Viceroy, not only as due to himself as a distinguished nobleman, but as the representative of one of the greatest Sovereigns and Powers on the face of the earth. We may acquit offenders of designed insult ; but we cannot acquit them of a want of consideration in presenting themselves before the Viceroy in the guise we have above truthfully described. There is no people on the face of the earth more exacting in matters of ceremony among themselves than are the natives of this country, and we see no reason why there should be less strictness or consideration when paying ceremonious visits to the representative of the Sovereign."

Probably the Chief Justice of Bengal attracted the most notice on Monday evening. Sir Comer Petheram appeared in black instead of in scarlet in which the other Judges were robed. We understand Sir Comer called a meeting of the Judges to impress on them the dignity of the black gown, but they, according to a ruling of Sir Barnes Peacock, preferred to appear in scarlet. Sir Comer stuck to his black.

LORD LANSDOWNE has accepted the Honorary Colonelcy of the Calcutta Volunteers, vacant on the departure of Lord Dufferin.

THERE will be a Civil Service Dinner on the 29th, Mr. Justice Prinsep, as the Senior Civilian in Bengal, presiding.

THE Simla municipality telegraphed to Bombay a long farewell to Lord and Lady Dufferin, to which his Lordship wired a sympathetic reply.

FOR vilifying the judges of the Parnell Special Commission, Mr. Harrington has been fined £500.

THE Grand Duke Alexander of Russia was on a short tour in Upper India. He had been to Jeypore and Agra and Lucknow and Benares. He takes the *Rynda* at Bombay for return home.

ON a reference from the Assam Government, the Government of India has ruled that the income of a missionary society is exempt from the Income-tax, but not the salary paid to the missionary.

SCHU HUKM SING, formerly Mir Munshi to the Punjab Government and lately Extra Judicial Assistant at Jhang, has joined the Bikanir Council of Regency, Rajputana, as Vice-President.

FOR the benefit of the New Tesai Tea Association, to be added to its location, 1,40 acres of the Manjah Reserved Forest has been released from the operation of the Indian Forest Act VII of 1878.

AS an additional distinction, Rajah Udit Naryan Singh Deo Bahadur, of Seraikellah, in Singhbhum, has been exempted from personal appearance in Civil Courts.

GOVERNMENT has fixed Friday the 15th March 1889 as the date for the first general election for the new Municipal Calcutta, under the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act II (B. C.) of 1888.

J. C. PURCELL, of the *Indian Mail*, has been committed, by the Magistrate of Dehra, to the Allahabad High Court for libelling Mr. Fitch, of Mussoorie.

THE District Engineer Walter Francis Trotter, of Bulandshahr, is being tried at the Allahabad High Court, before Mr. Justice Straight, for embezzlement or criminal breach of trust, in respect of Rs. 72, Rs. 66-10-9 and Rs. 64-12-9.

WE read in the *Indian Spectator* in "Stray Thoughts from Bengal. From a Bengali Journalist," that the Maharaja of Durbhunga "has contributed the splendid sum of a lakh of rupees to the Cow Memorial movement." Sriman Swamiji has then accomplished half his object, and he may now prepare himself for his agitation in England.

EITHER to finally abandon the question or to provide a remedy for the periodical inundation of the tract lying between the Damuda and the Rupnarain rivers, a temporary division in the South-Western Circle to be called the Damuda-Rupnarain Survey Division, has been ordered, to enquire into the causes of the floods, with Mr. O. C. Lees, Executive Engineer, in charge.

THE Madras High Court—Chief Justice Sir Arthur Collins and Mr. Justice Muthusamy Iyer have confirmed the disgrace of the Thien community of Malabar by the disallowance of the appeal of Churia Kunhi Kannan, Deputy Collector and Magistrate of Malabar, and his brother Churia Anandan, Pleader. They must expiate their crime in jail.

THE largest ferry-boat is owned, as in many other things, by America. *Robert Garrett* plying between the foot of Whitehall-street, New York City, and Staten Island, made 18 knots an hour in her trip from Baltimore. She has 1,500 horse-power engines and is 236 feet long, 36 feet beam, 14 feet deep from her lower deck, and can carry about 5,000 persons.

TO encourage the study of Russian, examinations will be held in India twice—in January and July—from the next year 1889, at such of the military stations where qualified officers for the purpose may be available. Covenanted civil officers, and military officers in political, civil and military employ will be eligible for these examinations, and candidates, not in military employ, must obtain the permission of the Government of India to appear at the examinations.

NEW YORK is now exhibiting a wonderful block of agatised wood. It weighs 4,200 lbs., and measures $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, by 33 inches, and is 34 inches high. It was found in the petrified forest at Chalcedony Park, Arizona. It makes fine table tops and is capable of handsome ornamentation. The hardness is such that the time taken up for cutting one piece of the wood is the same for sawing up 200 pieces of marble.

THE Eastern go-a-heads are likely to relegate the Westerners to the shade. Thus—

"A Mr. Endo, a native of Nagasaki, has devised an instrument for walking on the water. The vernacular press describes it as something in the nature of foot-gear, made of iron, paper gum elastic, and wood,

elliptical in shape and having gutta-percha tubes attached. There is also a life belt. The apparatus filled with air, the wearer is raised out of the water, but by what means he is enabled to preserve an upright position is not stated. Should the waves be rough, the foot-gear is emptied of air and the body is suffered to sink up to the waist. A rate of progress of three miles per hour is supposed to be attainable. The apparatus weighs only $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and it is claimed that the wearer will be able to carry a load of 25 lbs."

THE Government of India, has, in the interest of Native States, wisely ruled that "when a Medical Officer is permitted to attend a Native Prince or Chief, the fee to be paid for such attendance must be settled by the Government of India or the Local Government (as the case may be), to whom the amount of the fee proposed should be reported by the Political Agent or Officer performing analogous functions for sanction, before it is communicated to the Medical Officer concerned."

THE long-expected Chinese Amban has appeared in Gnatong.

THE Eurasian leader of the South Mr. D. S. White died suddenly on the 20th.

YESTERDAY there was on the Maidan a parade of the troops in garrison and the Volunteers, in honor of the proclamation of the Marquis of Lansdowne as Viceroy and Governor-General of India. A royal salute with three volleys at intervals commenced the proceedings, then the proclamation was read, when the troops wheeled into position for the march past. Lord Lansdowne was not, however, present as was expected.

TO-DAY'S *Gazette of India* publishes the result of the last M.A. Examination. In English, 3 students have passed in Class I, 9 in Class II, and 20 in Class III. The Presidency College stands first, after it comes the Agra College, then follows the Muir Central College. Two teachers head the remaining two classes II. and III. In Mental and Moral Science, 2 are in Class I, 4 in II, and 10 in III. Here, the Free Church Institution returns the most successful student, 4 in II, and 2 in III, have succeeded in Sanskrit. A Teacher heads the list, but none appears in Class I. 2 have won in each of the 3 Classes in Mathematics, the General Assembly's Institution being prominent. In Natural and Physical Science, in the Chemistry Branch, 3 have passed in Class I; in the Physics, 1 in I, and 4 in II, and in the Physiology and Zoology only 1 in Class II. A teacher stands second in Chemistry. The Muir Central College returns the second in Class II, in Physics and the Metropolitan Institution passes the only student in Physiology and Zoology. The rest in Natural and Physical Science come from the Presidency College.

HIS Excellency the Viceroy has been pleased to appoint on H. E.'s Personal Staff Colonel J. C. Ardagh, C.B., to be Joint Private Secretary with effect from the 10th December 1888. This appointment will involve no charge against the Indian Revenues.

HER Excellency the Marchioness of Lansdowne has assumed the office of Lady President of the National Association for supplying female medical aid to the women of India. There will, however, be no change in the designation of the Fund raised for the objects of the National Association which will continue to be known as "The Countess of Dufferin's Fund."

MISS VALERY WIEDMANN, the daughter of a pastor of North Germany, sued in the Queen's Bench Division Mr. Robert Horace Walpole, heir to the Earldom of Orford, for breach of promise of marriage and for libel, the damages being valued at £10,000. According to the Plaintiff's statement, she met Mr. Walpole in September, 1882, at a hotel in Constantinople. He at once conceived a liking for her which depended into affection, and he wanted to make her his wife, but she at first said she would not marry him as she would go back to Germany. In the next scene, she had returned late from the opera and was sitting for some time at the open window in her *robe de nuit*—in her room which she thought she had bolted. In came Mr. Walpole and, notwithstanding her protestations, talked of love and ultimately overpowered and seduced her. He repeated his proffers of love, paid her a cheque—for £100—and as a pledge of promise of marriage put his signet ring on her finger. Then they separated. It seems they never met again.

She, however, addressed many telegrams and letters to him, imploring, for the sake of his unborn child, to write to her and make her an honest woman. The child, a boy, was born in June 1883, and it still lives. In cross-examination, she refused to give any information about the child or to her own condition in November 1882, saying excitedly "I will not have it; it is disgraceful; that is not the purpose I am here for, and will not have it. It is ridiculous to put such questions, and I will not answer them." She only admitted that the child still lives, but refused to answer other questions such as the date of the birth of the child. She preferred to go out of court than answer the question. "They are impertinent questions," she said. "After six years to put such a disgrace upon me. It is a shame to humanity. Gentlemen should be ashamed to put such questions." The Judge, Baron Huddleston, threatened her with contempt of court and custody. She protested it was not contempt of court. His Lordship said he was bound to deal with it accordingly. She repeated that her claim was breach of promise, and said that the defendant had no right to ask after the child. The Judge then directed the Jury to return a verdict for the defendant and judgment was entered accordingly.

The defendant denied the promise and the publication of the alleged libel and pleaded privilege as to the libel. As regards the promise, he pleaded that if made it was made in Turkey, where no action was maintainable.

THE late Hon'ble V. Ramiyengar, C.S.L., retired Dewan of Travancore, left his Library, comprising a very valuable collection of books and papers, to Pacheappah's College, with which he was connected as a Trustee of its Charities for several years, and his widow and administratrix has now made the delivery. The collection, which comprises over 1,000 volumes, has been handed over in two glass cases furnished by the donor, one only condition being attached, namely, that the books be kept separate in a part of the College Library with labels affixed to them bearing the name of the donor Mr. Ramiyengar.

MONS. JANSENS, Governor of Congo, is now in Brussels on leave. He will return to Congo in the next spring. They announce several departures for Central Africa, and say that a grand hotel is going to be erected at Boma. Civilization, with all her belongings, thus advances even in the heart of the Dark Continent.

THE Russian *Novosti* traces the Whitechapel murderer to a Russian lunatic. A native of Tiraspol, in South Russia, he was born in 1847 and graduated at the Odessa University. In 1870 he developed into a fanatical Anarchist and went to Paris and out of mind. The reform of the fallen women was his theme and it struck him that their only way to salvation was being murdered. He followed this bent of his mind by a number of murders in the French capital. He was arrested but not put to trial being found a maniac. He was therefore confined in an asylum for about 16 years. He was pronounced cured and released. He then went over to England shortly before the Whitechapel murders commenced. He lived there with several compatriot refugees but his friends have lost sight of him now.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE Fourth Session of the National Congress will be held at Allahabad, opening on the 27th December. Mr. W. C. Bonnerjea, accompanied by Mr. W. Digby, the Agent of the Congress in England, left last evening for the scene of operations. The veteran leader Mr. Allan Hume—the Raglan of the invading host—is already there. Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose does not go.

The place of meeting is Lowther Castle, the old Government House, now belonging to a Mahomedan who, we hope, will not at the last moment send our patriots to the right about.

There are ugly rumours of a collision of races, for which we believe there is no foundation.

MAUNG Oon, C.I.E., A.T.M., of Rangoon, has been Gazetted an Additional Member of the Governor-General's Council.

This is a departure, but a departure in the right direction. This is the first time that a Burman has been elevated to the Chamber of the

whole Empire. We owe the appointment to the late Viceroy's initiative, doubtless. We take it as the first taste of the liberality in this sphere that he has promised. We cordially welcome Maung Oon to the metropolis and to his high office.

But who is this Oon? our readers may ask. As the title A. T. M. shews, he holds a medal for good service done to our Government. On or more properly Oon is a pensioner. He was the 2nd Judge of the Rangoon Small Cause Court. He and his elder brother, the late Moung Khine, also Judge of Rangoon after the 2nd Burmese War, are better known as sons-in-law of the famous Moung Taulay of Pegu. Taulay had been an influential Chieftain in Burma. Disgusted with his own Government, he emigrated to Arracan with 10,000 followers and retainers, and founded the town of Moulmein. He was of much assistance to the British since the breaking out of the first Burmese War. In reward, he was made a Judge of Moulmein. He died at the good old age of 94. There is a direct descendant of the Chief in this city in the person of Mrs. Moung Hla Oung, the wife of the Assistant Comptroller General, Civil Account Department.

Mr. Oon is not versed in English. He carried on his judicial duties in his native vernacular.

WE have not hitherto noticed a hole and corner business which took place during the last Long vacation, but we may as well give it as a piece of news and an illustration of the tactics of our professional agitators.

It seems that the National Congress affords no sufficient field to our patriots. There, rather, they feel tied down by stringent rules as to length of speeches and choice of subjects. They therefore got up what they called the Provincial Conference and called those who cared to attend. The Bengal delegates, of course.—Nothing short of a Delegate in these days! These amiable gentlemen denied themselves rest during the holidays. They came over to Calcutta, when Calcutta was out of town, and met at the silent chambers of the British Indian Association, passed several resolutions in support of the doings of the Indian Association—to rescue their fellow countrymen from their present political degradation. They chose for their head the Hon'ble Dr. Mahendralal Sircar, who opened the proceedings with a "Wigging" on them for having troubled a physician in large practice and an enthusiastic student of science in general into the bargain who had no sympathy with their favorite "fad" of Technical Education.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY has surprised everybody who knew him in his earlier life, by the invincible politeness which he has invariably observed towards all who have approached him since his elevation. No extravagance puts him out. He forgives every stupidity. He dismisses deputations with the success of a practised diplomat. Yet he is not given to *finesse*, but is often blunt enough in his refusal. Still he takes care to avoid unnecessary pain. His reply to the Mahomedan address presented to him at Cuttack, during his late tour, is typical of his execution. Here is the most important part:—

"In regard to Mahomedan educational endowments, you are doubtless aware that the subject has recently been very fully examined by a Committee to which my Secretary, Mr. Nolan, was attached, and which was composed of gentlemen probably the most fit who could be found for such a duty in the Province. At their suggestion the law applicable to suits for the better management of endowments has been simplified, and Government has undertaken to defray the cost of conducting all cases instituted with the approval of the Advocate-General. The proposal which you now put forward, that a body should be permanently constituted with extensive powers for the investigation of the affairs of educational endowments, with a view to disclosing the real facts, was fully discussed by the Committee, and was abandoned in consequence of the strong opposition of some Mahomedan members, apparently representing an influential section of that community. Indeed, it is the want of unanimity among Mahomedans themselves which is the great difficulty in the way. I do not think that you should repudiate as strongly as has been done in the address the advice to help yourself in this matter, taking such assistance as is given by the law, and by the pecuniary support of Government. The Committee's report indicates that in Balasore itself the Mahomedans professing an interest in this matter have done little or nothing to obtain an accurate knowledge as to the institution of the local endowments."

Orissa seems to be the Bawotia of Islam in India. Its representatives there gratuitously brought this rebuff on themselves and their community by vexing the travelling L. G., on a subject the A. B. C. of which they had not learnt. Lucky for them that they had not Sir Ashley Eden to deal with.

WE are pained to learn that a Mahomedan Assistant in a Government office in Calcutta, is being very badly treated by the head of that office, who is a Hindu. This poor man is the only Mahomedan in that office, the rest of the officers being all Hindus. We are told that he is an eyesore to the man clad in brief authority, simply because he is a Mahomedan. Is this the way for the Hindu gentlemen to win the Mahomedans to join them in their political aspirations?

A PRIVATE letter from England received this week contains the following information, which will doubtless be interesting to the many friends and admirers of the first Chief Justice of the Bengal High Court.

For some time past, Sir Barnes Peacock has not been well. He is chiefly troubled with cold and cough. Under medical advice, he winters in the South of France where he now is. He is much better there, and will not return to England till spring.

THE Lieutenant-Governor gave a garden party on Wednesday. It was well attended by native and European gentlemen and ladies. A company of native acrobats attracted the guests to their corner of the grounds, and kept most of them interested, until the appearance of the Viceroy and Lady Lansdowne and the party from Government House, when the interest centred in them. Sir Stuart Bayley was as gracious as ever, making a point of giving his hand to every guest at coming and at parting. Former Lords of Belvedere used to descend, like a god, on the scene after the guests had assembled and to confine their notice to their personal friends and favorites. In fact, they allowed themselves to be surrounded by a cordon of native satellites, which it was impossible to penetrate for the faint-hearted, who often went away without so much as a sight of the great host.

We hope all the native gentlemen who attended on Wednesday will go to Belvedere and write their names in the visiting books.

WE read in the *Madras Standard* under the head "Pudukota,—12th December"—

"At the Sessions of this month, a Mussulman was fined Rs. 100, and sentenced to a week's simple imprisonment on a charge of perjury. An application was made to the Chief Court, in which it was asked that the sentence might be suspended, pending the disposal of the appeal. The Judge, on the appellate side, declined to take the subject into his consideration, as he could not do anything in the absence of the Chief Judge who was then out of this station on leave. At once the Dewan-Regent who was at Madras was made aware of the fact by a telegram, and he issued orders that the prisoner should be let on bail. The Dewan-Regent has, indeed, played an active part in the exercise of his authority over the Pudukota Chief Court."

This is the way in which the veteran Minister who now rules over Poodocota is being, for so many years, hounded by a pack of irresponsible scribes, place-hunters, and litigants. If the far from lucid phrase, "The Dewan-Regent has, indeed, played an active part in the exercise of his authority over the Pudukota Chief Court" has any meaning, the Dewan-Regent ought to be commended for his energy in not sleeping over one of his most important functions. As his authority is not questioned, is it the activity that is at fault? The case cited is a clear one for interference, and the Dewan-Regent deserves great credit for the promptitude with which he exercised his legitimate authority in the interest of justice. Some of our British magnates might with advantage follow this black statesman.

AGAIN :—

"The State prides upon the relationship borne by some of the highly-paid officials. There is the Dewan-Regent at the helm of the State. He has his nephew as Guardian for the young Rajah. In this capacity he is much eulogised by his uncle. The District Collector and Magistrate (Dewan-Peishkar) has a Subordinate Magistrate in the person of his own brother. The latter is to be checked by the former in the discharge of his functions. One is employed as Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, (Deputy-Peishkar), while his brother is an Overseer in the Public Works Department. There are other minor relations which need no mention for the present. If a list of men, imported into the State service, were taken, it would show that the present mode of administration is on a very bad scale."

And is that all? Can untiring Malice, with her microscopic eye, discern no other flaw in the administration of the Principality than that some of the officials are relations? We shrewdly suspect that the charge is exaggerated. But taking this correspondent at his word, it amounts to nothing worth a reply.

MR. F. HENVEY, Agent to the Governor-General for Central India, is on his cold weather tour. He reached Ujjain on the 15th. Governor Sir Michael Filose, at the head of his officials and the local magnates, received him at the railway station which was grandly fitted up for the occasion. The Agent, Governor-General was presented with an address from the municipal committee and the merchants. It was, very properly, in vernacular. Accordingly it could be, as it was, read by the Chairman of the Corporation, Seth Sevaram Samuntram, who is no English scholar, and could be answered without reproach, as it was, without the intervention of a middle-man. Of course, it was businesslike and to the point, without any dash at transcendental politics. It expressed the "special gratitude" of Malwa to Mr. Henvey, for his recommendation to the Government of India, for the good of the Gwalior subjects, of the proper persons for the supreme charge of the State during the minority. To that recommendation, they believe, they owe the "appointment of the junior Ranee Saheba, who is an accomplished lady Regent, and Bapoosahel Jadhoo as the President of the Council of Regency. The latter gentleman, we need hardly state, is eminently suited to the high and responsible office not only by reason of his personal qualifications and experience but has the hereditary privilege of holding such post of honor and power, and since the appointment of such an honoured and honorable gentleman to the head of the administration of the state, many of the difficulties, inconveniences, and innovations, which have crept in the administration since the death of His Highness the late Maharaja Jiajeerao Sindia, will soon be removed and none is more conscious of the fact than ourselves that you are the first cause of such reform."

The Address indeed is eminently practical and does credit to its framers. It insinuates in respectful attitude and economy of phrase some important points. Here in a single sentence are compressed the best of them :—

"We now confidently hope that the beneficial measures of His Highness the late Maharaja Saheb will be invariably followed and that on the erection of the palace here, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb will be pleased to reside therein to the great joy and benefit of his subjects of this part of country."

There is more than what the running reader unacquainted with the affairs of Central India might suspect. The first part of the sentence doubtless refers to the hasty and unsuitable changes introduced during the late régime since the death of Maharaja Jeyaji Rao Bahadoor, at enormous cost and to the detriment of efficiency in administration. The second part contains a statesmanlike suggestion. Malwa has a right to expect that her Ruler should reside within her territory, during a good part of the year at least. We trust there is no reproach against the climate. The absence of proper accommodation will be remedied when the new Palace is ready. The necessary improvements will follow when the Maharaja comes to take up his residence there. Gwalior, although now adorned by one of the finest palaces in India, is but a Lushkar settlement—an encampment turned to a capital. Ujjain is an antique—an Indian Rome the Eternal.

The Addressers do not forget their obligations to their Governor :—

"We further beg leave to express our gratitude to Sir Michael Filose to whose untiring zeal and recommendations we owe the beneficial improvements inaugurated in this town in the public works, trade, education and other general improvements such as the establishment of High School and Library, &c."

THE French are confessedly the politest people in Europe, masters of the minor graces.

"Gay sprightly land of mirth and social ease,

Pleased with thyself, whom all the world can please."

is Goldsmith's apostrophe to France. The Poet with equal truth might have written "who" instead of "whom" in the last line quoted. He would not have any objection, on that score, either, seeing that, later on, he notices the facility of the people at compliments and the inordinate hunger for them developed by it. This mutual complimentation

Here passes current ; passed from hand to hand
It shifts in splendid traffic round the land ;
From courts to camps, to cottages it strays
And all are taught an avarice of praise ;
They please, are pleased, they give to get esteem,

&c.,

That, of course, is the coarse Briton's, or rather the Anglo-Irishman's explanation of a matter in which he is no expert. It is poor philosophy, not to say arrant barbarism, to resolve grace and graciousness into a passion for praise—an infinite capacity for "blarneying." Be

that as it may be, it is undeniable that the French excel all other nations in the art of pleasing. The other day, they charmed the Queen of Portugal. Before quitting Paris, she expressed her satisfaction with the hospitality which the French people had shown her. At the Railway Station of Orleans, in a saloon decorated with foliage and flowers, where she was received by the superior Railway authorities, she requested Colonel Lichtenstein, who represented the President of the Republic, and the Count of Ormesson, who had come to salute her in the name of the Foreign Minister, to convey her cordial thanks to them. Her Majesty was not content with the formality of pronouncing merely the official acknowledgments. With a touching grace, as the train was about to be put in motion, she said to Count Valbon, her ambassador—doubtless so as to be heard by others—"I carry the best and dearest *souvenir* from Paris."

In like manner, were the Grand Dukes of Russia conquered. They had taken part in several chases. The Society of Chases of Rambouillet invited them to hunt at Clairfontaine. The Duchess of Waldemar followed the course with much animation. Among the personages present were MM. de Leuchtenberg, Polosoff, Duc de Dondeauville, Viscount Tudern, Baron Hottinguer, and Baron de Rodortes.

At Rambouillet, the President of the Republic, too, in honour of the Grand Dukes, got up a hunt, which was preceded by an entry into the town adorned with the Russian and French flags. Their Imperial Highnesses were much touched by the kind attention of the inhabitants.

BAROO Kally Nath Mitter's time is up in Council. Raja Rameswar Singh Bahadoor, brother of the Maharaja of Durbhunga, has been selected to fill the vacancy.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1888.

SIFTING OF OUR REPRESENTATIVES.

THE MALCONTENT PRESS AND ITS CHIEF
IRRECONCILABLE.

AT the outset of a new vicereign and in view of the great questions of the day, it is a measure of common prudence to put our house in order. This is the time for the periodical thorough repair so necessary to the comfort, health and even safety of the inmates—nay, to the preservation of the very premises. If a complete overhaul is a formidable prospect—if extensive additions and alterations are an arduous and costly undertaking—your home should, at any rate, be placed in a habitable condition, made air- and water-tight, and neat at least, if not elegant without, and decently furnished within. That is the subject on which we should like, at this juncture, to preach to all the communities of India, most of all to our own. Our text is simple—"Wanted a Thorough Repair and Refurnishing before regular occupation." There is a time for everything, and this is the time for this. There is no particular time for urgent repairs for safety, but periodical examinations and repairs and change of furniture are among the prime requirements of wise household management, and the beginning of a fresh administration seems a proper season for that necessary operation. At this moment, when we are all engaged in criticising the ruler just retired, may we not, with more advantage, form a judgment on the critics of administration and on our politicians in general? Just now, the Marquis of Lansdowne is the chief topic of Indian ignorance. Are we sure we have no better occupation than the desperate task of interpreting the great Sphinx just landed on our shores? We are ready to discuss the new Viceroy threadbare at the threshold of his Indian career—to assign a character to a stranger whom nobody knows, and to evolve a policy out of cautious commonplaces meaning nothing in

particular, uttered under the compulsion of saying something polite in answer to formal addresses. Had we not better take stock of our own possessions—ask ourselves what we are, and what we have been doing, and how we mean to conduct ourselves in the future immediately before us?

To our mind, instead of wasting our thought in strictures on the ruler who is gone, or in vaticinations on him who is just come, we would be more profitably employed in judging our own leading men and publicists. One of the cardinal duties of the Indian community at this moment, seems to be to examine and ascertain the capacity of these gentlemen for their respective positions—to review the past and to forecast the future. We are sick of the cant term "representative men." But are our men of leading "representative men?" If they are, the prior question must be confronted, Are we worthy of ourselves? Are we, in fact, "a good lot"? Whatever we may be, are we prepared to be represented by our so-called "representative men?" Do we not even care to keep up appearances? A great responsibility rests on our people in this matter. We are accountable, how we allow ourselves to be judged by those who pose before the public as our representatives. It is time enough that we should have a thorough sifting of our representation and a recasting of leaders. The subject, no doubt, is one of difficulty and delicacy, but there is no help for it. The question has assumed an urgency which cannot be mistaken. We must do something for our character, and that *instantly*.

Beyond question, the first step is to set our press in order. Here, at all events, there is no such difficulty. It may be difficult to recognise the true leaders, and no less so to deal with them. But the Press is an institution always before the public, and it is easier to influence it. We have suffered much from its sins. There is scarcely a dozen thoughtful men in the country who will deny that our Press has of late worked incalculable mischief. It is this press that paralyzes the efforts of the best men of the community to effect a decent *rapprochement* between not only the governing body and the subject population, but also between the two races, European and native, inhabiting this great Empire, side by side, whose main interests are indissolubly bound up together. Is it possible that there can be either social peace or political progress in a community broken into different camps, always at war, overt or incipient? The very idea is out of the question. What is the good of one-sided efforts by different members or branches of a great Imperial household? Do our enthusiasts seriously hope that a strong external power will concede any extensive privileges to a subject population which, besides being not in harmony with itself, has not the common prudence to live on decent terms with the members of the ruling race? Will any number of monster meetings of natives, supported by stray Europeans, at different centres of the Empire, realise adequate expectations, so long as the great society of ruling Englishmen and influential Europeans and East Indians and Eurasians, look on the business with amused indifference or affrighted vexation?

For this unhappy result, we confess with pain our Orators answerable, but, above all, our Press. Great as is the effect of foolish speech on the young, the ill-educated and the unthinking, the range of the nuisance is still limited by physical conditions. The living voice can reach but a few hundreds, and it is only when the Press aids the Platform, in circulating its rubbish, that the spouters become most mischievous.

but, then the one agency is merged in the other. It is our malcontent Press that is the chief and most widely diffused pest. We say "our malcontent" advisedly, to distinguish the nocent from the innocent. Happily, the Press is not one, nor all in the same boat. Composed of different units, it is diverse in character. Of late years, no doubt, nocence had been on the increase, but we already discern a silver lining in the horizon. Still the sky is overcast with a murky gray opacity, surcharged with masses of frowning clouds. Till the atmosphere is farther cleared, there will be cause for anxiety. The malcontent Press is even more loud than it is numerous. So long as we fail to improve it, we must be content to go without character, and be the object of legitimate suspicion with our neighbours. On a subject which so deeply concerns our national honour and welfare, we cannot stand on delicacy, but will speak out with courage, regardless of misunderstanding, be the consequences to ourselves what they may. We must not leave our meaning enveloped in generalities. For a concrete example, we name the *Indian Mirror*. That one paper is itself a host—the type and arch-transgressor of all the malcontent brood. It has earned for itself an unenviable notoriety. We have long since given up reading it. Since the late Keshub Chunder Sen and his brother the accomplished and wise Krishna Bihari abandoned it, there never was much to interest one in it. Since poor Roderigues left it to the dogs, it became simply unreadable, except on occasions when it got extraneous help. With age, its worst vices have been more and more confirmed, growing at once in inanity and insanity. For the last few years, notwithstanding the exertions of friends who value the importance of a daily organ, it has, for the most part, been a regular sink. It knows but one policy—that of everlasting discontent. It is probably the one thorough Irreconcilable in the land. Its rudeness is proverbial. Grossly ignorant, incapable of thought, deficient in information even on passing subjects, because unable to distinguish between the true and false of what reaches it, notoriously credulous, a prey to the delusions of the hour, a slave to dancing Derwishes and painted prophets, its sole mission seems to be to misjudge and misrepresent men and measures, and to vilify authority. Without forbearance or toleration, it cannot understand honest difference. It can never forgive the shadow of a shade of opposition. Moderation is its special abhorrence. It maintains a standing snarl at Europeans and the European community. The Government is, of course, its *bête noire*. It opposes without sense, and abuses without wit. It is the Little Kala Pahar—the puny but troublesome enemy of everything respectable.

It is not necessary to specify the offences of a journal whose breath is poison. Any issue will show to the candid and discerning what we mean. A week's consecutive issues will prove the charge to the hilt. The proof, indeed, is now patent. Its very friends have given the *Mirror* up. Poor Mr. Hume clung to the last to the only native daily, but he at last found the connection insupportable and found a formal disavowal necessary. We are assured by him that the same is the case with the best men of the Congress, in all parts of the Empire. They were all afraid of sinking, Congress and all, in that rotten bottom, and they took care, like knowing rats, to desert it and land the rich cargo on the shore just in time.

As we do not look into the paper except the 3rd page, containing selections from other papers, we will give two crucial instances of malcontent wisdom and

propriety which have fallen under our notice. The other day, we chanced to light upon an article on the Marquis of Salisbury's speech at Edinburgh. The Marquis was reported by the London Correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* to have called Mr. Dadabhai Narojee "a black man." Such language can be justifiable, if ever, only in the heat of electioneering. From the point of view of our stately Oriental manners, it is rude to savagery. To our Indian ears, such an expression towards Brother Dadabhai is simply shocking. An Indian journalist would naturally resent it with warmth, and might be excused for retorting on the occasion with bitterness. What does the *Indian Mirror* do? Without waiting even for confirmation, it kicks up a d—l of a row. Were not such exhibitions quite common with it, there would certainly have been a requisition by friends for doctors. The report might be subsequently contradicted, or the expression might be retracted. It was evidently a slip. Perhaps, it was a mere party shot of a rotten egg of speech, and, if so, very unbecoming the hand of the leader of the House of Lords. At the worst, it was an ebullition of temper. There was no want of principle in the matter. No man's honour was touched on either side. Yet this veteran Bengali journalist—this Indian of light and leading—called Heaven and Earth to witness the great wrong to India, and iniquity of England's Prime Minister, and urged—entreated—conjured the whole Empire—Great Britain and her greatest Dependency—to combine, on pain of everlasting disgrace, for driving Lord Salisbury out of office, neck and crop, bag and baggage. Nothing short of the ignominious disgrace of the base bad man will satisfy this knight of the quill *sans peur et sans reproche*—this patriot of such a mealy mouth that butter does not melt in it—this publicist who was never betrayed into an angry word!

The next illustration we shall take, is the talk of the whole town and, we may add, the disgrace of native society. How the *Mirror* misbehaved last year at the time of Lord Dufferin's leaving for Simla, will probably never be forgotten. It was imagined that, after its discomfiture on that occasion, it would, for its own sake, preserve silence on the subject of that Viceroy ever after. Not a bit of it! It welcomed his Lordship to the capital with studied insolence, and, after hounding him throughout, now continues to send its vials of abuse after him since he has left it for ever. Not content with that, it pursues his very shadow—the slightest traces of that nobleman—with unappeasable malignity. Look at the vicarious sacrifice in the person of the late Private Secretary of the late Viceroy! Such vindictiveness is probably unparalleled. Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace had ceased to exercise the functions of Private Secretary to the late Viceroy from Simla, Mr. Hewett of the Indian Civil Service taking his place. No matter! It is enough that he was Lord Dufferin's once. Not only is he abused, but Lord Lansdowne too. And the queerest part of the business is that, in obedience to a hint from their Prophet, the malcontents are ostentatiously loyal and patronisingly kind to the new Viceroy. But the astute game is abandoned at the sight of the Dufferin rag—red, of course. Nay, not only Lord Lansdowne is repeatedly reproached for taking in a seasoned Private Secretary for the nonce, but Lord Dufferin also is denounced for Lord Lansdowne's choice. Was ever anything so unconscionable and without conscience?

This matter of the appointment of a Private Secretary has, in our contemporary's columns, all the im-

portance of a grave policy of State. The *Mirror* devoted the best part of a whole issue to a leading article on the subject, and returned to the attack with another on the following day. On the first occasion, among other things, it treated its readers to such stuff as this :

"We know that he had originally considerable difficulty in securing a suitable Private Secretary, till at last he found Colonel Ardagh, a man after his own heart. When Lord Lansdowne left England, it was settled that Colonel Ardagh was to be his Private Secretary in India. It was after His Excellency's arrival in India that we heard of the new disposition of the office of Private Secretary in Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace's favor. It was originally announced, before Lord Lansdowne left England, that Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace would leave India at the same time as Lord Dufferin, the latter sailing for Europe, and his Private Secretary journeying home overland through Central Asia. A subsequent announcement said that Lord Lansdowne not having been able to secure a Private Secretary, Sir Donald would act as one for a short time. The services of Colonel Ardagh having been, after all, obtained by the new Viceroy, Lord Dufferin's organs in the Press informed the public, so far as we recollect, that Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace would, after all, go home. Once more, the same newspapers contradicted their former announcement, and said that Sir Donald was deputed on special work, the speciality of the work remaining unspecified—Mr. Hewett acting *pro tem.* as Private Secretary. This announcement was, after a short while, supplemented by another, which informed the public that Sir Donald would remain in India, even after Lord Dufferin's departure, to complete his special work. We, therefore, can only infer, on the strength of the facts we have placed before the reader, that the ex-Viceroy must have asked his successor to take over Sir Donald as Private Secretary."

What a picture of a miserable man of his own painting, have we here! How he was exercised by the unauthorised news that the papers, from time to time, laid before the public! He was, of course, not a bit wiser by the different rumours than before.

"We may be wrong in our inference, but we think this sort of arrangement to be decidedly objectionable on all grounds, and we maintain that it is fair neither to Colonel Ardagh, the Private Secretary-elect, nor to Lord Lansdowne himself. The Government of India is so peculiar, we were going to say so unique, that we do not, and the public does not, know what could have been the circumstances or the objects, which led to such an extraordinary arrangement. Now, if we possessed the right of interpellation in our Legislative Councils, we could, in the exercise of the right, get at these circumstances and objects. But in the absence of the right of interpellation, we are completely in the dark about them."

What a confession! The man knows nothing about the matter. No! not exactly so. He knows one thing, assuredly; knowledge or no knowledge, his cue is abuse; his vocation is *galie*. In fact, he does wrong with full knowledge. "We may be wrong," says he; but never mind. We are free to abuse. It is a fine occupation. How the Baboos in the offices gape at our wit and spirit! How the half-educated and quarter-educated lionise us! If facts are against us, so much the worse for them. Patriotism pure is not bound to proof.

Fancy the audacity and stupidity of proclaiming, without the slightest warrant, that Lord Dufferin forced his former Private Secretary on his successor, as if the accomplished and able Mackenzie Wallace were a bad bargain difficult to provide for! And for what purpose? Why for the purpose, forsooth, of perpetuating the slavery of India and the despair of the *Mirror* and the malcontents. The nation is yet far from being able to breathe freely. Machiavelli has, no doubt, left for ever, but then he has left behind Mephistopheles—his secret *Gooroo*—guide, philosopher and friend.

The writer incidentally discloses the extent of his party's aspirations, which are now under discussion in connection with the Congress movement. He *naïvely* confesses the use they would make of a representative Legislature, or of the right of interpellation in even a partially popular Chamber, whenever it was granted. After this, it is idle to find fault with Lord Dufferin and others, who are afraid of the obstruction to business—not to say of danger to the best interests of the State—from the presence in the Legislature of any number of irresponsible politicians of this kidney, with the power to put all manner of questions to Government. It never occurred to the writer how

frivolous such a question would be as he would like to ask. Our would-be Honourable member might just as well interpellate Government as to the Viceroy's tailoring or cooking arrangements.

The new Viceroy has missed a great chance. He is a most promising young man and might have got on tolerably, by a diligent study of that repertory of the wisdom of the East—the *Indian Mirror*, but for that arch-schemer Dufferin. Lord Lansdowne is not apparently a well-known person at the *Mirror* office, but he comes certified by the London agent of the *Advocate of India*, and "our own information"—from some of the passengers of the P. and O. steamer—is also favourable. But *cui bono*? The trail of the Serpent is over him. Dufferin's own Private Secretary is still here to "coach" the new Viceroy's Private Secretary for a few weeks or months. What hope of India under the circumstances!

On another day, the *Mirror*, in the course of a long article, writes this glorious rubbish:—

"Unfortunately for the Viceroy and unfortunately for us, His Excellency has to deal with the legacy, Lord Dufferin left to his successor at the last moment. What does the retention of Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace, as the Private Secretary to the new Viceroy, portend? This gentleman is now officially gazetted as being appointed Private Secretary to Lord Lansdowne with effect from the 10th instant. That is to say, on the very day Lord Lansdowne assumed the Viceroyalty, Sir Donald also was sworn in, in his old post. What does this arrangement mean? If any thing, it means that Lord Dufferin made up his mind at the last moment that he and his policy should not be easily forgotten in this country. We regard Sir Donald Wallace's fresh lease of office with not only a sense of foreboding, but with positive mistrust. The *Englishman* has attempted to soften the bitterness of the announcement by saying that Sir Donald Wallace's appointment implies no change in his plans, and that his stay in India will be merely temporary. But we are not satisfied that his stay in this country should be even temporary. A week, a month, and the mischief is done. Lord Lansdowne will, indeed, be a man of rare courage and individuality if he can lift himself above the influence and counsels of his Private Secretary. Our only hope is that His Excellency will prove just such a man. He has entered upon his duties at one of the most critical periods of British Indian history. We are sure, Lord Lansdowne will not be carried away by self-laudatory and fanciful pictures of peace and financial solvency, drawn by the ex-Viceroy over the social glass after a valedictory meal. Lord Dufferin with characteristic complacency told his hosts of the Byculla Club at Bombay night before last that he had restored the 'equilibrium' of the Treasury, and maintained profound peace in the country. This was meant to assure people that he left his successor an easy and simple task of Government; whereas the fact is that Lord Lansdowne's work will be unusually arduous. Lord Dalhousie in a similar manner left India, enjoying peace. But history witnessed the legacy of woe he left to his successor. We know it will be exceedingly difficult for Lord Lansdowne to resist the influence and counsels of the officials surrounding him, but we entreat him to do so for his own sake, and for the sake of the millions, committed to his care. The old *regime* has done its best, it seems, to have the old policy continued. While Sir Donald Wallace is at His Excellency the Viceroy's elbow as Private Secretary, Mr. Evans, we see, re-nominated to the Supreme Legislative Council to represent, we believe, the Dufferinian sentiments. We do not know how often Mr. Evans has been re-appointed to the Council. We are absolutely ignorant of his special merits, which have entitled him to this oft-repeated honor. Are there no other Barristers to be found fit for the post? Is Mr. Evans to be made a life-member of the Council? Why should he be allowed to make a monopoly of the office? Lord Lansdowne could positively know nothing about Mr. Evans. Was not, then, this gentleman's re-nomination to the Council practically the work of Lord Dufferin? We only hope that the Viceroy will have the will and the courage to trample upon what seems to be nothing less than an attempt to perpetuate the old *regime*."—*Indian Mirror*, Dec. 16.

So it is not enough that Sir Donald has long ceased to be Lord Dufferin's Private Secretary and would soon leave India for good. Having once served the late Viceroy, he has *ipso facto* been disabled and outlawed. He should not be allowed to tarry a moment on these shores. We wonder whether the disability extends to the clan Mackenzie and all the descendants of William Wallace.

But it is not the Private Secretary who is the only eyesore. Every belonging of Lord Dufferin's is bad and wrong. The country should be purged of the Dufferin taint.

This is Dufferinophobia and no mistake!

Such is the journalism to which we are linked, which is daily compromising our credit and endangering our country's and people's cause!

MAHOMEDAN POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES.

I confess I cannot approve of elaborate uncalled-for exposure of the Mahomedan Delegate from Dacca by your correspondent "A Mussulman of Bengal but never Chamar." By such a graphic account of his unmentionable antecedent and questionable character "H. Bux" has undoubtedly obtained the notoriety which he so eagerly longs for. Not only he but his brother *Patanloges* will remain ever indebted to your correspondent for this great publicity. When it is wellknown to the intelligent public that the enlightened Mahomedans of Dacca in a body refrained themselves from joining the Congress and publicly expressed their anti-Congress views, like the citizens of Bombay, Lahore and other places, it is unnecessary then to handle the "Hindu-elected Mahomedan Delegate" from that historical city in a first rate journal like *Reis and Rayyet* and to reiterate his non-representative element.

Your correspondent should not be surprised to see that one of the audacious and plucky *Patanloges* has been hailed as a representative of the Dacca Mahomedans when all grades and spheres of *loges* such as *Attarloges*, *Mabulloges*, *Chapraulloges* &c., are every day playing wonders and aspiring higher and higher above their station. "English education" is itself a satanic spell. It makes its possessor at once a gentleman, and leads him to think that he is in no way inferior to any Reis or gentleman of the land. Many such spell-bound individuals consider the old-school gentry and *Kulin* Indians no better than barbarians or the rude aborigines. Such is the talisman of a smattering of reading and writing in the language of the rulers. What wonder, then, if Mr. Bux with his little English claims to be a representative of the respectability of one of the proudest Mussulman cities in India.

Your masterly leader on the historical genealogy of the Indian Mussulmans in your issue of the 22nd September last has, it seems, been very much misunderstood by the Congresswallahs disappointed in their search for Mahomedans of leading and light to sit with them in their annual gatherings, they are unscrupulously picking up persons bearing Mahomedan names and painting them in the brightest colour imaginable. The agitators only want a number of so-called Mahomedans whom they can easily make highly respectable and educated by a dash of their pen, on the mere supposition that all Mahomedans are of good birth and lineage. If such is not the case I would ask these political agitators to answer me the following questions:—Can the so-called Mahomedan Delegates read, write and understand English in which important speeches and lectures are being delivered? How many Mahomedans are there who can sufficiently understand political problems? Did the simple-minded and obliging country *Meers*, *Syuds*, *Khondkars*, *Mahomedan Chowdharies*, &c., ever look into any book or tract on the wants of India, or of Bengal or Behar? Did they shew any aptitude to do good to their community and country at large? Did their names ever figure in the Press as those of public-spirited men? When they are indifferent and deaf and dumb to the dire necessity of their co-religionists who are losing their position in Society every day, how can they be the exponents of their community in ambitious movements of any kind?

Dec. 18.

KHAJA KHEZER.

SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE MARQUIS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA AT THE ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

Calcutta, 30th November 1888.

[Concluded from p. 573.]

So again with regard to technical education. The Government of India may recommend to the local Governments the policy and the arrangements which it considers to be suited for the establishment and spread of this useful and necessary branch of instruction, and the local Governments may improve upon those suggestions, or may apply them with the utmost zeal and wisdom; but it is the educated classes—those who are most intimately acquainted with the internal economy of the homes of India and the natural aptitudes of their inhabitants—who alone can give energy and vitality to the movement. Well, Gentlemen, as I have already observed, when the Congress was first started, it seemed to me that such a body, if they directed their attention with patriotic zeal to the consideration of these and cognate subjects, as similar Congresses do in England, might prove of assistance to the Government and of great use to their fellow-citizens, and I cannot help expressing my regret that they should seem to consider such momentous subjects, concerning as they do the welfare of millions of their fellow-subjects, as beneath their notice, and that they should have concerned themselves instead with matters in regard to which their assistance is likely to be less profitable to us (applause). It is still a greater matter of regret to me that the members of the Congress should have become answerable for the distribution—as their officials have boasted, amongst thousands and thousands of ignorant and credulous men—of publications animated by a very questionable spirit, and whose manifest intention is to excite the hatred of the people against the public servants of the Crown in this country (cheers). Such proceedings as these no Government could regard with indifference, nor can they fail to

inspire it with misgivings, at all events of the wisdom of those who have so offended. Nor is the silly threat of one of the chief officers—the principal Secretary I believe—of the Congress that he and his Congress friends hold in their hands the keys not only of a popular insurrection but of a military revolt, calculated to restore our confidence in their discretion, even when accompanied by the assurance that they do not intend for the present to put these keys into the locks (loud applause). But Gentlemen, though I have thought it my duty in these plain terms to point out what I consider the misapprehension of the Congress party as to the proper direction in which their energies should be employed, I do not at all wish to imply that I view with anything but favour and sympathy the desire of the educated classes of India to be more largely associated with us in the conduct of the affairs of their country. Such an ambition is not only very natural, but very worthy, provided due regard be had to the circumstances of the country and to the conditions under which the British administration in India discharges its duties (applause). In the speech which I delivered at Calcutta on the occasion of Her Majesty's Jubilee, I used the following expression:

"Wide and broad, indeed, are the new fields in which the Government of India is called upon to labour, but no longer, as of old, need it labour alone. Within the period we are reviewing, education has done its work, and we are surrounded on all sides by Native gentlemen of great attainments and intelligence, from whose hearty, loyal, and honest co-operation we may hope to derive the greatest benefit. In fact, to an Administration so peculiarly situated as ours, their advice, assistance, and solidarity are essential to the successful exercise of its functions. Nor do I regard with any other feelings than those of approval and good-will their natural ambition to be more extensively associated with their English rulers in the administration of their own domestic affairs, and glad and happy should I be if, during my sojourn amongst them, circumstances permitted me to extend and to place upon a wider and more logical footing the political status which was so wisely given a generation ago by that great Statesman, Lord Halifax, to such Indian gentlemen as by their influence, their acquirements and the confidence they inspired in their fellow-countrymen were marked out as useful adjuncts to our Legislative Councils." To every word which I then spoke I continue to adhere (cheers); but surely the sensible men of the country cannot imagine that even the most moderate constitutional changes can be effected in such a system as ours by a stroke of the pen, or without the most anxious deliberations, as well as careful discussions in Parliament (applause). If ever a political organization has existed where caution is necessary in dealing with those problems which affect the adjustment of the administrative machine, and where haste and precipitancy are liable to produce deplorable results, it is that which holds together our complex Indian Empire, and the man who stretches forth his hand towards the ark, even with the best intentions, may well dread lest it should shrivel up to the shoulder. But growth and development are the rule of the world's history, and from the proofs I have already given of the way in which English statesmanship has perpetually striven gradually to adapt our methods of government in India to the expanding intelligence and capacities of the educated classes amongst our Indian subjects, it may be confidently expected that the legitimate and reasonable aspirations of the responsible heads of native society, whether Hindu or Mahomedan, will in due time receive legitimate satisfaction (cheers). The more we enlarge the surface of our contact with the educated and intelligent public opinion of India, the better; and although I hold it absolutely necessary, not merely for the maintenance of our own power, but for the good government of the country, and for the general content of all classes, and especially of the people at large, that England should never abdicate her supreme control of public affairs, or delegate to a minority or to a class, the duty of providing for the welfare of the diversified communities over which she rules, I am not the less convinced that we could, with great advantage, draw more largely than we have hitherto done on Native intelligence and Native assistance in the discharge of our duties (loud applause). I have had ample opportunities of gauging and appreciating to its full extent the measure of good sense, of practical wisdom, and of experience which is possessed by the leading men of India, both among the great nobles on the one hand, and amongst the leisured and professional classes on the other, and I have now submitted officially to the home authorities some personal suggestions in harmony with the foregoing views (cheers). Gentlemen, I have

Holloway's Pills.—The Great Need.—The blood is the life, and on its purity our health as well as our existence depend. These Pills thoroughly cleanse the vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that means strengthen and invigorate the whole system, healthily stimulate sluggish organs, repress over-excited action, and establish order of circulation and secretion throughout every part of the body. The balsamic nature of Holloway's Pills exercises marvellous power in given tone to debilitated and nervous constitutions. These Pills dislodge all obstructions, both in the bowels and elsewhere, and are, on that account, much sought after for promoting regularity of action in young females and delicate persons who are naturally weak, or have from some cause become so.

sometimes seen in the newspapers formidable indictments drawn up against the British administration in India. I do not now refer to them for the purpose of controverting the charges which they formulated, but they have certainly indicated one blemish which the Government of India frankly recognizes and had already begun to deal with, namely, the present constitution of the police. There are undoubtedly great defects in this branch of the public service. It is, however, by no means an easy matter to deal with, the difficulty lying in the low *morale* prevailing in the classes from which alone the police can be drawn, in the supineness and ignorance of the people themselves, and still more, on account of the additional expenditure which would be entailed by any really effective amelioration of the force (*applause*). Again, with regard to the separation of Judicial and Executive Offices in the early stage of the service and in the lower grades. This is a counsel of perfection to which we are ready to subscribe, though the reform suggested—where it has not been carried into effect—and it has been largely effected—is by no means so simple a proceeding as many people suppose. But here also we have a question of money. With regard to both these subjects, however, I have to make one observation. The evils complained of are not of recent date: they existed long before my time, and had they been as intolerable, as is now stated, they would have been remedied while the existence of surplus funds rendered this practicable; but, as this was not done, it is fair to argue that, even admitting that there is room for improvement in both the above respects, we can afford to consult times and seasons in carrying these improvements into effect (*applause*). Be that, however, as it may, I confess, I always lay down these incriminating documents with a feeling of relief at finding that more serious shortcomings cannot be alleged against us (*cheers*). When I consider the difficulties of our task, the imperfection of the instruments through which we must necessarily work, the multiplicity of the interests with which we have to deal, the liability of our most careful calculations to be upset by material accidents over which we have no command, the complexity and centrifugal might of the forces we are called upon to harmonize and co-ordinate, the extraordinary tendency in the East for two and two to make five, and the imperfection which stamps the conduct of all human affairs, my wonder is that our miscarriages should not have been infinitely multiplied. In reading these criticisms I am reminded of a story of a young man who afterwards became a very powerful public speaker. On his first appearance on the hustings he was so embarrassed by the novel circumstances of his situation that he made but an indifferent effort at his speech; but when some one in the crowd ill-naturedly jeered at him, he cried out, “you just come up

here and do it yourself—you won't find it so easy,” which pertinent observation at once won for him the sympathy of his audience (*loud laughter*). At all events, we have the satisfaction of knowing that there is another side to the picture; for in these diatribes, to use Sir Auckland Colvin's eloquent words, “of the India of to-day as we know it; of India under education; of India compelled in the interests of the weaker masses, to submit to impartial justice; of India brought together by road and rail; of India entering into the first class commercial markets of the world; of India of religious toleration; of India assured for terms of years unknown in less fortunate Europe, of profound and unbroken peace; of India of the free Press; of India, finally, taught for the first time that the end and aim of rule is the welfare of the people and not the personal aggrandizement of the sovereign,”—he might have added of India that within the last 28 years has accumulated 110 millions of gold and 218 millions of silver, “we fail to find a syllable of recognition (*cheers*).” At all events, Gentlemen, you may be sure that, whatever our sins, whether of omission or of commission, the English Government in India will continue faithfully, courageously, and in the fear of God to endeavour to discharge its duties, to amend whatever may be amiss, and still further to improve the good which already exists, indifferent to praise or blame, and as unresentful of the hard things occasionally said of us by those for whose sake we are labouring, as we shall always be grateful for the appreciation of those, and they are the great majority, of our Indian fellow-subjects who have the intelligence to understand and the generosity to acknowledge what we have done for them (*loud applause*). And now, gentlemen, it only remains for me to thank you, not only for your hospitality and for the friendly reception you have given to the mention of Lady Dufferin's name and my own, but for the patience with which you have listened to this somewhat lengthy speech. It is a great regret to me to think that I am looking round for the last time upon so many friendly and familiar faces. In another week I shall have discharged my trust, and transferred my great office to the hands of one of England's most capable Statesmen, a nobleman in the prime of life, and already distinguished for his sound judgment, his moderation, his wisdom, and the industry with which he applies himself to public affairs. That he will by the intelligence, the impartiality, and the sympathetic character of his rule, gain and maintain the good-will and the confidence both of Her Majesty's Native and English subjects in India, I have not the slightest doubt, and this conviction to a great deal consoles me for my regret in quitting your service. Gentlemen, I again thank you from the very bottom of my heart for all your kindness and goodness (*loud and continued cheers*).

CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

Notice is hereby given that the Office for Registration of Births and Deaths for Wards Nos. 13 and 14 has been removed from No. 21, Wellesley Street to No. 109/1, Collinga Bazar Street facing Marquis Street on the North side.

JOHN COWIE,
Secretary to the Corporation.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION UNDER SECTION 23 OF ACT IV (B. C.) OF 1876.

Three vacancies having occurred in the representation of Wards Nos. 13, 16 and 17 by the resignation of Dr. E. W. Chambers, the disqualification of Dr. R. C. Sanders, owing to his absence from Calcutta for a period of upwards of six months consecutively, and by the demise of Babu Pran Nath Dutt, respectively, it is hereby notified that the rate and tax-payers of the aforesaid Wards must forthwith proceed to elect a Commissioner for each of the aforesaid Wards. As only one Commissioner has to be elected for each of the Wards, each person qualified to vote will, under the concluding portion of Section 13, be entitled to only one vote.

The elections will be held on Saturday, the 29th of December 1888, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 6 P.M., at the Municipal Office. At a date not less than 21 days before the day fixed for taking the poll, a voting paper printed in black ink for each of the Wards will be forwarded by post to each registered voter.

The voter on receipt of this voting paper may—

- (1) Return it by post duly filled up to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked “Voting Paper, Ward No.—”
- (2) Return it by hand to the Municipal Office in a closed cover marked “Voting Paper, Ward No.—”
- (3) Present it himself at the polling station on the day of the poll, or
- (4) Entrust it either open or in a closed cover at his option, to any person whom he may select, for delivery at the polling station on the day of the poll.

Any Voter who, owing to miscarriage of the Post or other mishap, may not have received his voting paper by the 14th day before the poll, may apply at the Municipal Office personally or by agent for a duplicate, putting in a written statement that he has not received any voting paper.

Voting papers on different colored paper from the original and duplicate papers referred to above will be provided at the Municipal Office at the time of the poll, and any voter who has not already voted, or who may wish to cancel his previous vote, may, notwithstanding that he has already filled up an original or a duplicate voting paper, appear at the poll, and fill up a paper in the presence of the polling officer, and such vote or votes shall alone be held valid and shall cancel all previous votes.

JOHN COWIE,
Secretary to the Corporation.

Dated 16th November 1888.

Rivers Steam Navigation Co. “Limited.”

ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE NOTICE.

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 to stand rough usage. Can be easily repaired.
 Have no appearance of cheapness about
 them. Others sell at double our rates. Mr.
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TRAVELS & VOYAGES IN BENGAL

BETWEEN

Calcutta and Independent Tipperah,
 BY

SAMBHU C. MOOKERJEE,

Formerly Minister to the late

NAWAB FARIDOON JAH BAHADOOR,
 (the last of the Nawabs Nazim of Bengal,
 Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

Apply to Manager, "REIS & RAYYET"

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 CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some
 years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder
 Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*
 (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high
 repute among the kindly, as well as acute and
 intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real
 misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord
 Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The
 picture, true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and
 many Bengalees, is not accurate as a represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as
 an Englishman may find them if he looks
 fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad
 story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder;
 and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen
 could give individual instances of Bengalee
 faithfulness almost unique in history, taking
 all the circumstances of our relation to India
 into account. The Bengalee is generally eager
 for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both
 courageous in the expression of his opinions,
 and gifted to a remarkable degree with the
 power to express those opinions with force and
 precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an
 unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during
 an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in
 force as well as eloquence, any unprepared
 speech he ever had heard made by any mem-
 ber of the House of Commons, if four or five
 members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body
 of men—small for that large province—who
 are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young
 Bengal." Some of them are no longer young,
 but grave and aged; some have, in the course
 of years, been highly distinguished for their
 public services and their scientific and other
 attainments. Some have at times been mis-
 represented, and their language misinterpreted,
 so that on its return to them it has amazed
 none more than themselves. Nothing of this
 has been done by the really great administra-
 tors of India. That it has been done, however,
 cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the
 author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu
 Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute,
 as I have said, also an administrator, as the
 reader will see from the title-page to this book.
 A keener, yet a kindlier satirist, one might
 seek for and not find. His use of the English
 language has astonished many an educated
 Englishman; and the quality of his reading is
 shown by his marvellous power of quotation;
 not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and
 Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in
 science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads,
 and little-known old pamphlets, in the applica-
 tion of which he leaves one wondering—first,
 how he obtained the productions at all, and
 secondly, how, having obtained them, he
 learned to apply them so appositely to the
 subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we
 shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the
 work of the administrator. He comes upon a
 milkman's village, on which he finds fastened
 the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens
 the grip, and re-settles the village, in the
 double interest of Prince and Peasant. And
 all the time he sees everything. The poor
 people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his
 genial and kindly, if also at times, what a
 Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice.
 A "fair maid of Sonagoan" attracts his at-
 tention by the gracefulness with which she
 carries a vessel of water from the river; and,
 though the fair maid and he are divided by
 race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his
 full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admit-
 ted—and he will not be offended with me for
 saying so—that he never meets with a fair face,
 without at least giving evidence of the fact
 that he has eyes to see and a heart to com-
 prehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much
 might be said, and still leave much more to
 say. He meets a missionary on the river, and
 evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to
 pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, how-
 ever, in the bud, and contents himself with
 saying, "So new is preaching here, that the
 simple people said the padre had been singing
 in the street." He meets Catholic and Pro-
 testant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles
 over their disputes, while he astonishes them
 by his command of the English language, and
 even by his knowledge of the Bible—a know-
 ledge, I may add, which is evident in many of
 his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in
 its cage, to his great distress, which is not
 however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but
 of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose
 name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to
 quark, with a noble independence, at some very
 dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell:
 [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one
 that will draw the author very close to the
 great heart of humanity, wherever the words
 are read. Could anything be finer than the
 testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen,"
 ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor
 Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah
 dog. The passage is worthy of the author,
 and of the great mercifulness of the land that
 bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared
 further to find bold and manly language. The
 author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he
 gives John his due, and admits that India owes
 him a great debt. Here is one passage relating
 to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pic-
 tures—the reader will find some exceedingly
 pretty, and all the more valuable in that they
 are taken from a standpoint purely Indian;
 not English. Where an English artist's mind
 would be filled with European ideas, the mind
 of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class
 of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive
 and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our
 author was placed in a dilemma of a kind
 not unknown to travellers in India, but not on
 that account the less stupid. He wished to
 go by a particular boat, add took time by the
 forelock for that purpose. The fare was at
 first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he
 offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note
 for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from
 the Currency Office, and had been received
 only the day before from another Government
 department." The rest of the story is
 thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth
 something. I can fancy the author laughing
 even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at
 others, and equally well at himself. I shall
 only venture on one more passage; and I give
 it as showing the spirit of the man who dares
 to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*.
 He desired to return to his home in Bengal,
 and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Inde-
 pendent Tipperah, where he had been located
 "some two years." He received the Maha-
 rajah's permission to return home; but still he
 could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this pas-
 sage; the lesson of the immense value of
 courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers
 and ruled. There is a great deal in that sen-
 tence, "He serve flesh and blood." The best
 administrator in India is not always the ablest,
 the man whose plans are the wisest as plans;
 but the man who, with plans or without them,
 gives confidence to the people, and confidence
 not merely in his justice, but also in his con-
 siderateness and forbearance. A clever man
 once said that the art of success in India is the
 art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but
 the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in
 any case the art has its limits, and its natural
 collapse. Even ginners and champagne pall
 in the end. But there is one art that never
 fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy
 which, being natural, is not affected by any
 whim or caprice, either of the person who
 possesses it, or of any one with whom he has
 relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once
 more recall, as I easily and very vividly can,
 the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as
 known to me many years ago. I see him, as
 I see Baboo Kristo Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra
 Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-
 abused editor of the *Anurita Bazar Patrika*;
 and I feel and say, with all earnestness and
 sincerity, that among these are men whom
 the Government of India would be wise in
 recognising and winning entirely to its side.
 They are men on whom no really generous
 word—true as well as generous—ever is
 thrown away. I have compared them at times
 with men of kindred occupations at home,
 and I think that they are as a rule by far
 the truer gentlemen in good manners, and
 often in very much more than mere manners.
 May the great God, whose sacred Name they
 use as that of the Father of all, guide them to
 a nobler destiny than any they yet have
 known, and with them, and by them, bless
 their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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(Author of *Kabitahar, Bharat Kusum.*)

Asrukana is a collection of poetical pieces of singular pathos and beauty of expression. It is a series of mournful songs that the reader is here presented with and they must touch a sympathetic cord in every heart that can feel. There is a singular appropriateness in the title of the work, and in its pious dedication to the memory of the husband of the fair writer.—*The Indian Nation.*

The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

This is poetry in life

We have read Srimati Girindra Mohini's poems in a reverential spirit. The poems are all of a lyrical description. The lyre is soft, sweet and tender, but awfully strong.

The tone of the poems is inexpressibly gentle, inexpressibly pure, and inexpressibly tender and affectionate. It is the tone of a world mother.

Bengal should be proud of this poem—*The Calcutta Review.*

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A RECENT TRAVELLER ON THE Chinese Coast found that District remarkably FREE FROM TYPHOID FEVER and CHOLERA. He soon discovered the cause. The people there do not drink cold water from tanks or wells, often extremely impure, but keep a pan of water constantly boiling, into which from time to time they drop a little Tea, and when thirsty THEY DRINK HOT TEA! If the weak and adulterated Teas of China can do this, what may not the pure and strong Teas of India be expected to effect?

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(PRINCE & PEASANT)

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

AND

REVIEW OF POLITICS LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

Vol. VII. }

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1888.

} No. 354

CONTEMPORARY POETRY.

THE TROOPER'S SONG.

(SCHILLER.)

Up, comrades, and saddle! To horse, and away
To the field, where freedom's the prize, sirs!
There hearts of true metal still carry the day,
And men are the kings and the kaisers.
No shelter is there, where a skilker may creep,
But each man's sword his own head must keep.

From the earth has freedom vanished quite,
And left but the master and master'd;
Chicaning and falsehood have fasten'd them tight
On the hearts of the fool and the dastard.
The soldier hears death in the teeth,—and he,
Alone of all mortals, alone is free.

Life's cares and its troubles, he doffs them by;
No fear has he, and no sorrow;
He shows a full front to his fate!—for why?
It comes, at the latest, to-morrow.
And if then to-morrow, to-day let us drain
The heart-stirring cup,—we may never again.

We toil not, we moil not, but snatch for ourselves
The joys that from heaven down tumble.
The serf, sorry drudge, he digs and he delves,
In hopes on a treasure to stumble.
He digs and he shovels, while life flies fast:
And digs, till he digs his own grave at last.

Unwelcome guests are the trooper tall
And his coal-black so fiercely ridden:
When the lamps are bright in the bridal hall,
He comes to the revel unbidden.
He woos not with speeches, he woos not with gold,
But bears off the prize like a reiver bold.

A kiss, wench, at parting! Why, never take on,
Your tears will be dried by some new love.
We are here to-day, and to-morrow are gone,—
Can a soldier know constant and true love?
We are tost to and fro, like the restless wind,
And are true, while we may, to the lass that's kind.

Then up, boys, and saddle. Huzzah for the fight,
Where the pulses beat high, till they madden;
Youth boils in each vein, in each nerve dances light,
Up, up, ere its spirit can sadden.
Strike home, and remember in battle strife,
The man that fears death has no chance for life.

WHY THUS LONGING?

WHY thus longing, thus forever sighing
For the far-off, unattained and dim,
While the beautiful, all around thee lying,
Offers up its low perpetual hymn?

Wouldst thou listen to its gentle teaching,
All thy restless yearning it would still;
Leaf and flower and laden bee are preaching
Thine own sphere, though humble, first to fill.

Poor indeed thou must be, if around thee
Thou no ray of hope or joy canst throw;
If no silken cord of love hath bound thee
To some little world, through weal and wo.

If no dear eyes thy fond love can brighten,
No fond voice can answer to thine own,
If no brother's sorrow thou canst lighten
By daily sympathy and gentle tone.

Not by deeds that win thee crowds' applauses,
Not by works that give thee world-renown,
Not by martyrdom, or vaunted crosses,
Canst thou win and wear the immortal crown.

Daily effort, though unloved and lonely,
Every day a rich reward will give:
Thou shalt find, by hearty striving only
And truly loving, thou canst truly live.

NEWS AND COMMENTS.

WE are relieved to find the report about the death of Mr. D. S. White contradicted. The dangerous condition of the patient, brought on by inflammation of the bladder, had led anxious wights to prematurely mourn his loss.

DURING the nine months ending 30th September, the seven railway companies in England reported as personal accidents, only 696 deaths and 6086 injuries.

MR. H. B. H. TURNER, of Messrs. Turner Morrison & Co., has been elected President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

A SEVERE shock of earthquake was felt at Calcutta on Sunday night at 10 hs. 50m. 50½s. It lasted about a minute without causing any damage to speak of. The wave travelled through a wide area. Reports of the disturbance have been received from Rajbari, Rungpur, Rampur-Buleah, Monghyr, Ansellgunge, Sitarampur, Muddehpura, Nattore, Goalundo, Raneegunge, Midnapore, Jalapahar, Burrisal, Saidpore, Burdwan, Chandernagore, Ranaghat, Howrah, Kishnaghur, Duttapookur, Cooch Behar. In none of these places was the shock more protracted or severer than it was here.

Subscribers in the country are requested to remit by postal money orders, if possible, as the safest and most convenient medium, particularly as it ensures acknowledgment through the Department. No other receipt will be given, any other being unnecessary, and likely to cause confusion.

PARLIAMENT was prorogued on the 24th, with a Speech from the Throne.

THE Muir Mills Company, Cawnpore, have sued the Victoria Mills Company, of the same place, for infringement of a trade mark, and, pending the final disposal of the suit, have obtained a temporary injunction against the use of the mark by the Victoria Mills.

A FORGED order on the Agent, Lucknow Branch, Bank of Bengal, for a draft on the Cawnpore branch for Rs. 5,000, was timely detected, but the presenter made himself scarce.

A YOUNG Burmese prince has been put in the Bareilly College under the special charge of the Head Master. The master and pupil are wholly ignorant of each other's language, and there is only a dumb show, for the education is being imparted by signs and motions. That reminds us of the poor Hollander who went over to England to make a living and retrieve his fortunes, by teaching Dutch to the natives, but found to his mortification that his ignorance of English was an absolute bar to his start in the profession.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to declare, under "The Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881," the following days as public holidays during the year 1889 :—

5th & 6th February (Tuesday & Wednesday)...	Sripanchami.
12th April, Friday	Chait Sankranti.
20th " Saturday	Easter Saturday.
24th May, Friday	Empress's Birthday.
19th August, Monday	Janmashtami.
24th September, Tuesday	Mahalya.
30th Sept. Monday to 5th Oct. Saturday	} Durga and Lukhi Pujas
7th Oct. Monday to 10th Oct. Thursday	
23rd and 24th October, Wednesday & Thursday	Kali Puja.
1st and 2nd November, Friday and Saturday	Jagadhatri Puja.
23rd, 24th and 26th Dec., Monday, Tuesday	{ Two days preceding
and Thursday	
	and the day following the Christmas Day.

Sundays, New Year's Day, Good Friday and Christmas Day are public holidays under the Act.

THE Acts to prevent cruelty to animals have been extended to the Taki, Badooria, Bassirhat, Goverdanga, Baraset, Naihaty, North Barrackpore, South Barrackpore, Barranagore, Rajpore, Barripore, Joynagore, South Suburban, North Dum-Dum and South Dum-Dum Municipalities, under the order of the Lieutenant-Governor, dated the 22nd December, published in the Gazette of the 26th December, 1888.

MR. E. G. COLVIN, Political Assistant, 3rd Class, officiates in the same capacity in the first class, and has been posted as Assistant to the Resident in Mysore and Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Coorg.

JAMES Young shot a man for running his daughter. Mr. Justice Cave stopped the case without calling upon the defence. And Young was acquitted. Movements are springing up in India, under the guise of friendship or philanthropy, for ruining the women of India. The women who have divorced themselves from the sacred associations of Hindu homes are naturally the greatest offenders, and they are helped in their work of destruction and ruination by the authorities in the belief that they are helping in a good cause.

MR. VIZETELLY has been convicted of publishing "an obscene libel"—translations of the French writer Emile Zola's books. Sir Edward Clarke, the Solicitor-General, prosecuted. Mr. Vizetelly at first pleaded not guilty, but afterwards said he was guilty of a fault, and desired to call witnesses as to character. The Recorder, in passing the sentence of the Central Criminal Court, said :—

"I do not believe that you deliberately did this in order to deprave the public mind. As to the works themselves, my opinion is that they are of the most repulsive description—they are not attractive, fascinating, or seductive—but they are repulsive and revolting to the last degree. You must pay a fine of £100, and enter into your own recognisances in £200 to be of good behaviour and keep the peace for twelve months."

THE Bombay Millowners Association, at a meeting held at the Cham-

ber of Commerce and presided over by the Hon. Sir Dinshaw Maneckjee Petit, have passed the following Resolution :—

"That the secretary, assisted by the committee, prepare a memorial, setting forth the different conditions of factory labour in England and India, showing how unnecessary and inapplicable the English Factory Act would be for Indian mills; pointing out how such a legislative measure would be a source of hardship to adults by reducing their earnings, and the manner in which it would be the means of preventing thousands of young persons and children from earning their livelihood. Respectfully calling to mind the sacrifice that India was compelled to make in the interests of Lancashire in repealing the Import Duties; and lastly, pointing out that the factory legislation in the direction agitated for by Lancashire competitors is meant, and would tend, to cripple an industry, which it is to the best interests of the State to foster and encourage by every legitimate means; the progress of cotton and kindred manufactures in India being the only true safeguards against famine and want in a country otherwise dependent on agriculture for the people's support."

PRINCE Ferdinand has offered 2,000,000frs. towards a national Bulgarian University at Sophia. That is a princely gift, in every sense.

THE serious accident at Borki, has given another impetus to the plan for the nationalisation of all the railways in Russia.

HERE is an explanation :—

"The following explanation is given why the year 1900 will not be counted among leap-years. The year is 365 days five hours and forty-nine minutes long; eleven minutes are taken every year to make the year 365¼ days long, and every fourth year we have an extra day. This was Julius Caesar's arrangement. Where do these eleven minutes come from? They come from the future and are paid by omitting leap-year every hundred years. But if leap-year is omitted regularly every hundredth year, in the course of 400 years it is found that the eleven minutes taken each year will not only have been paid back, but that a whole day will have been given up. So Pope Gregory XIII, who improved on Caesar's calendar in 1582, decreed that every centurial year divisible by four should be a leap-year after all. So we borrow eleven minutes each year, more than paying our borrowings back by omitting three leap-years in three centurial years, and square matters by having a leap-year in the fourth centurial year. Pope Gregory's arrangement is so exact, and the borrowing and paying back balance so closely, that we borrow more than we pay back to the extent of only one day in 3,866 years."

THE leading hero of the Detective Police in India, is Rai Bahadur Bala Prasad Pandit, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Rajputana-Malwa Railway. Certainly, no Police Officer in Rajputana and Central India has a brighter record. He distinguished himself in the famous robbery of arms and ammunition. After Colonel Burlton and the European Inspector had failed to find any clue, Sir Lepel Griffin employed Bala Prasad Pandit, and he in no time spotted the Borah who had secreted the stolen goods in his house. In the very first search he came upon 35,000 cartridges, besides other ammunition and arms. Since then more Loot of the same kind was discovered on the same premises. Sometime after, when there was a panic in the cantonment, in consequence of constant house-breaking and burglary, Colonel Burlton had recourse to the services of the smart detective Pandit. These were lent to the cantonment and soon public confidence was restored by Bala Prasad's success in detection of theft and recovery of the lost goods and prosecution of their purloiners.

Latterly, he has been called up from the Central Provinces for employment on the Railway, in consequence of the prevalence of robberies which could not be traced to their authors. He has succeeded in stopping the nuisance, by promptly catching the perpetrators and helping them to retire within the four walls of the prison or leave the country for its good. He has now added another triumph to his roll.

It appears that, during the Mohurrum in September last, a strong box containing Rs. 1,200 in silver, a silver chain, two gold finger rings, besides seals, bunches of keys, a string of beads, ten *mitaks* of arsenic &c., was missed from the house of the Mhow Cantonment Committee overseer, Munshi Abdulla. All the efforts of the Mhow Police being unavailing, the famous Assistant Superintendent of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway was called to the scene. His detective resources and energy were crowned with their usual success. He traced the goods to the house of a former orderly of the Overseer named Abdul, and the man has confessed and got two years of rigorous incarceration. We are glad that his wife and sister-in-law have been released for want of evidence.

For their recent raids on British villages, the Lushais are to be punished. An Expeditionary Force has been ordered, consisting of 250 men of the 2nd (Queen's Own) Bengal Light Infantry; 250 men of the 9th Bengal Infantry (already in the Chittagong Hill Tracts); 400 men of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd (Prince of Wales' Own) Gurkha Regiment (Head Quarters wing) and 200 men of the 4th Madras Infantry (Pioneers) and two guns of No. 2 Bombay Mountain Battery, under command of Colonel V. W. Tregear, General List, Infantry. The force will be concentrated at Demagiri, the ammunition per man being 70 rounds in pouch, 30 on coolies and 100 in reserve. Two months' rations will be collected in the first instance. A telegraph line will be laid between Chittagong and Demagiri.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL John Withers McQueen, C. B., Bengal Staff Corps, last in command of the Hazara Field Force, has obtained a good service pension from the 6th June 1888, in place of Major-General Sir William Hamilton, *Bart.*, succeeded to the Colonel's allowance.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned the 156¼ miles of the Assam-Bihar State Railway from River Kosi to Dinajpur, including the Manihari Branch, at the cost of Rs. 1,15,53,822.

It is significant that the candidates who successfully passed the last M. A. Examinations of the Calcutta University all bear native names. There is only one of Europeanish name, J. T. White. But he is not of Europe nor of European parents. He may be described as J. Tsawoo White, son of Moung Tsaw Hla Phroo, Extra-Assistant Commissioner, Arracan.

THE Privy Council has disallowed the claim of Bhai Rabi Dat Singh, a distant relative of the late Maharaja, to the Bulrampore estates, and has dismissed his appeal to set aside the adoption of Udit Narain Singh. The claimant has been saddled with the costs of the appeal—an awful punishment for at worst a venial fault!

AN old unmarried advocate at Rome has left, by his will, 1,000,000 lire (£40,000) to the Pope, his valuable library to a monk, and only a monthly allowance of five lire to his sister. She, as a matter of course, has been advised to contest the will.

THE Lieutenant-Governor rejected the appeal for mercy for the wife-murderer Suddhabodhe Bhattacharjee. He was executed this morning.

THE Senate has accepted the recommendation of the Lower House for abolition of capital sentence in Italy. Switzerland had abolished it but has taken to it again.

A *fakir* calling himself Padam Naryan was charged before the Magistrate of Cawnpore with obtaining food, habitation, service, &c., from the Newalkishore Press at that town, by falsely representing himself to be the *gooroo* of the Raja of Bhonti. The accused had asked Kunjbehari to deliver a letter to Munshi Newal Kishore. That letter purported to be from the said Raja of Bhonti recommending the *fakir* as his *gooroo* to the Munshi. He was treated well, of course, but the letter, on a reference to the Raja, was pronounced a forgery, and the *fakir* has been sent to jail for 2 years including 3 months' solitary confinement.

BEFORE the last Doorga Pooja, we drew pointed attention to the laxity of character prevailing in the Education department. The morals of the masters are no more immaculate on the Bombay side than they are on this. The students of a High School had made serious charges of immorality against their Brahman Head Master, and the latter has hauled his accusers up for defamation in the Court of the Magistrate of Poona. There is great sensation, in consequence. The case is being watched with anxious interest by Government and the Education Department, as well as the people.

MR. WESTLAND'S Conference for revision of the Provincial Contracts has ended and he goes home on leave—preparatory to retirement, it is believed.

THE New South Wales is still troubled with rabbits, and the reward of £25,000 for their extermination remains unclaimed. M. Pasteur has, of course, failed. His scientific atrocity is no good—in any sense.

SIR BARROW ELLIS'S bequest of Rs. 25,000 to the inhabitants of Rutnagiri, yielding an annual income of Rs. 1,000, will be applied to the encouragement of handicraft industries in that district.

NOTES AND LEADERETTES.

THE event of the week is the Congress now in session at Allahabad.

WE publish elsewhere the first portion of Mr. Nolan's report on Burma as a field for emigration from Bengal.

IN another part of this issue will be found a Government House Notice under the hand of Lord William Beresford, Military Secretary to the Viceroy. It is an invitation to ladies and gentlemen having the *entree* at Government House, that is, all, whether natives or Europeans, who have been presented at the *Levee* or the Drawing-room, are accepted as eligible guests at the viceregal mansion. As that will be the first general reception held by their Excellencies the Viceroy and Marchioness of Lansdowne after their initial *Levee* and Drawing-room, we hope there will be a full attendance.

THE High Court was closed for only 3 days for the Christmas Vacation—on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The general "public holidays" extended to Thursday following. But the Bengal Secretariat Offices do not open till Wednesday next, the 2nd January 1889, having appropriated the holidays hitherto enjoyed during this season by the High Court.

The Congressists have taken this curtailment of the Lesser Long Vacation to heart. For those who meant to attend the gathering at Allahabad, the innovation may be inconvenient. But it is foolish to suppose that it is due to a desire on the part of the Chief Justice to spite the Congress. The idea is ridiculous. Complaints have been again and again raised against the paucity of working days in the Courts, and Sir Comer Petheram, when he came himself to look into the list, must have blushed at the too-muchness of—the good thing. Hence the application of the shears. For which he deserves the thanks of the public.

It is possible that there has been an official correspondence on the subject. The Secretary of State himself may have drawn the attention of the Government of India to the small amount of work performed by the Bengal Court. Be that as it may, we see the Chief Justice doing a proper thing, and we are bound to acknowledge it. It was certainly not without some difficulty that he has effected the change. Jack having been demoralised by sugar-plums and having nothing to do, naturally kicks at any the slightest encroachment on his wide leisure. And Jack in ermine is no better than Jack in small clothes. But the Chief was firm and the Little Long Vacation was sacrificed.

We understand that Mr. Justice Norris of the Original Side announced that he would not take up defended cases on Friday. As Monday and Thursday are devoted to the undefended, and no court is ever held on Saturday, and as Tuesday next is New Year's day, the practitioners on the Original Side of the Bengal High Court had practically a leave to go to the Congress or anywhere they pleased, without hurt to business.

IN the Supreme Legislative Council on the 21st instant, the Hon'ble Raja Doorga Charan Law made a philanthropic move. On the Hon'ble Mr. Scoble's motion that the Railway Bill be referred to a Select Committee, he suggested that a clause be inserted providing retiring-room accommodation for third-class passengers, saying that the absence of this necessary convenience was a crying grievance, especially in behalf of Native females. The Hon'ble Mr. Scoble promised that the subject would be considered in the Select Committee, and any other suggestions the Honorable Member might wish to make.

THERE were at least two Indian candidates—both Bengalis—for the office of Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police in England

vacant by the resignation of Sir Charles Warren. Sir Stuart Hogg, formerly Chief Commissioner of our Calcutta Police, was one of them, and he doubtless calculated on the strength of the Hogg connection, specially in the Metropolitan Force. The English climate has restored his health, and he is pining for want of occupation. The pay, too, £1,500 a year in England, with other advantages, is an attraction to even an Indian Civilian. The other Bengali is, of course, Mr. Monro, who has got the appointment. He had retired four years back from the Bengal Civil Service, to be the head of the Detective branch of the London Police, in succession to Mr. Howard Vincent. It is said he could never pull well with his superior, the Chief Commissioner, and at last the other day resigned. He has, however, again been recalled with honor, to take the place of his former chief himself, Sir Charles Warren. That shows that Government appreciated his former services to the Criminal Investigation Department, which he had almost reorganised, or, at any rate, into which he had infused new life and understanding, and that he had been reluctantly permitted to go out in fairness only to the Chief Commissioner. We are glad for himself and our London fellow-subjects that he has returned to the Police, and in a position of advantage. As head he will be above thwarting, and his energies will not be consumed in endless correspondence and efforts to set himself right with his superior. He will be free to work out his views and plans. Sir Stuart Hogg would have done well from his Indian record. Mr. Monro ought to do better from his English experience superadded to his Indian. We offer him an Xmas present of a knighthood by New Year's Day 1890.

THE Foreign Mission Committee of the Church of Scotland have at last seen fit to purchase peace of the Revd. William Hastie of the Pigot-Hastie renown. Lord Fraser dismissed Mr. Hastie's action for damages for loss of appointment as Principal of the College and Superintendent of the Scotch Mission in Calcutta, but without costs. Against this judgment Mr. Hastie reclaimed to the First Division. Mr. Hastie has now been offered £1,250 to withdraw his action. We hope the redoubtable if irascible champion of purity in the bosom of the Church, will now have and give peace. A man of such splendid parts and accomplishments, with energy to match, purged of alloy in the fiery crucible of experience, can never want occupation. There are no limits to his capacity for usefulness. If he but give such translations as that of Kant he published some two years ago, he will not have lived and studied in vain.

WE have noticed above the magnificent offer of two million francs by Prince Ferdinand for a Bulgarian University at Sophia. One could scarcely expect such munificence to be easily or soon matched. But Royalty in Europe seems to have awakened to a sense of its responsibilities. Here is Ferdinand out-Ferdinand, by not an offer only, like those of some of our Rajas and would be Rajas, but by an accomplished fact, and that by a lady. The Swedish Princess Eugene has sold her family jewels to construct a hospital for cripples. The magnitude of this philanthropy will hardly be estimated rightly by humans of the masculine gender. But even males understand what it is to part with heirlooms and family regalia. Considering the natural passion of the fair sex for jewels, this royal lady of Sweden has shown a startling self-denial. The act is at once unparalleled and noble beyond conception. Since the wife of another Ferdinand paid for the means for the discovery of America, the world has not heard of such a liberality.

THE *People's Friend*, of Madras, publishes a letter from Calcutta in which the writer takes the trouble to inform the paper that a firm under the name of Chakravarti and Co., of Mirzapore Street, Calcutta, has no existence. There is at any rate no shop at the address given, but instead a lot of women who knew nothing of rings (the article advertised for sale for cash) being sold there. The house was in the occupation of a native compositor.

Notwithstanding this caution, we find in the same issue an advertisement of a Chakravarti & Co., hailing from Calcutta, but without any specific place of business, offering Brazilian diamond rings of pure gold and electric diamond rings of pure silver, with the interesting piece of information attached—"The use of electric rings destroys all sorts of diseases." Madras is an enigma—the home of anomalies. The stronghold of the ultraCongressists, it is at once the seat of Cre-

dulity and Theosophy and the Head Quarters of an Agnostic and Atheistic propaganda, as well as the centre of an active Christian movement. For all that, we can hardly believe that the intelligent conductors of the *People's Friend* pin their faith to the Electric Ring Panacea. They only believe, as we take it, in cash payment—to themselves. They have been paid for the advertisement in question and they consider themselves bound to publish it. This seems fair enough, at first sight. Is it so? Is it fair to their readers and the public at large? Are they not *participes criminis* in the transaction?

LAST week we exhibited to our readers the woeful state of mind of our contemporary of the *Indian Mirror*, on the subject of the Marquis of Salisbury's flippant characterisation of Dadabhai Nowrojee as a "black man." Poor man! he is "still harping on my daughter!" That Premier's dire offence has not yet been purged and our contemporary is as miserable as ever. Indeed, the offence is accumulating by mere flux of time. Having been an insult to not Parsees only, through all time from Rustam and Darius downwards, nor to Indians in general likewise, but to all Asia, it has come to be an outrage on the Queen and Parliament of Great Britain. Of course, it is a subversion of the Great Indian Charter of 1858.

We find in the *Bengal Times* the following quotation from the *Indian Mirror*—

"Queen Victoria declared through the medium of the Royal Proclamation of 1858 that she regarded all her subjects alike in her august sight. But there is her chief adviser of the Crown, who has violated most wantonly both the language and the spirit of the Proclamation, and instituted distinction and a difference between her Indian and English subjects."

NOTWITHSTANDING the extraordinary sensation caused in the Punjab by Bhimji, the Congress Missionary, with his open air meetings of thousands of enthusiastic listeners, it seems he has not been able to conquer the defection of the Mahomedans and Sikhs in general, or to make them accept the movement. There are neither Mahomedan nor Sikh delegates returned from Lahore. A "Representative Sikh" wrote to the *Civil and Military Gazette*, that

"No Sikh (he who is a disciple of Guru Nanak and Guru Gobind Singh) will ever join any seditious movement, certain to produce mischief for the existing Government and the people of India."

The parenthesis is intended, doubtless, to exclude from the Faith such "representative Sikhs" as the excellent Sirdar Dayal Singh.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fictions wired to Calcutta, Orator Surrender Not's mission to Dacca with the object of muzzling the Mahomedan opposition and securing Mahomedan support to the Congress, was a disastrous one. The Orator met more than his match in Mejla Saheb (we beg his pardon for forgetting the Mirza's name)—a scholar and a poet—whose Urdu eloquence was more to the point than the Baboo Saheb's froth and foam in English. The promoters had counted on a packed meeting of Congressists, and this unexpected opposition paralysed them. In the uproar that followed, the Mahomedans were not slow to join. The apology of a Mahomedan chairman whom the astute men of the Congress, with an eye to effect at a distance, had pitchforked into the seat of command, proved no better than a chairman indeed, in the sense of the bearer of the burden rather than the sitter on the piece of furniture. Those who called him to that difficult position had not sufficient sense of propriety, or lost their heads over the excitement, and the Chair possessed no influence, or tact. Soon all order was lost. There remained no possibility of a hearing for anybody. The Resolutions were not even formally moved, seconded, and put to the meeting. The promoters declared them passed and were glad to get away. At one time the two parties were very near coming to blows. The Hindus relied on their numbers, but the Mussulmans would have given a good account of them and burned for the fray. The timely arrival of the District Superintendent prevented a collision. Accordingly our friend Surrender Not lost a chance of glory as a Hero or a Martyr. His imprisonment by the High Court for libelling one of Her Majesty's Judges was the means of making him. He went about exhibiting his wound and raising public subscriptions for which he has not accounted. The District Superintendent of Dacca robbed him of another splendid opportunity of raising the wind.

Seriously speaking, we confess we do not dislike these collisions. Our people must go through many such and more serious encounters, before they are worth anything. The best and purest contribution of the Congress is the life it has evoked—the interest in public affairs it is causing in the land.

We find in the *Bengal Times* the following from the *Indian Mirror* as a specimen of the latter's habitual recklessness of assertion :—

"The Mussulman community of Bengal are (sic) now more convinced than ever of the importance and utility of the Congress, and we are sure there are among them few, if any, who will support the anti-Congressionists at Dacca, who have formed themselves into a little party, under the distinguished leadership of Mr. Kemp of the *Bengal Times*?"

Mr. Kemp naturally resents that gratuitous charge against him. He never goes out of his legitimate sphere and has nothing to do with parties. We suppose the cause of the Congress people's annoyance with him to be that he attended the meeting which was held in favour of the movement at which Orator Surrender Not stumped, and gave a true account of the proceedings which utterly discredited the "great cause" so far as Dacca was concerned. We have never spared Mr. Kemp any more than he has spared us. But we hope we shall never be dishonorable foes.

The report given in the Dacca paper was honourable to the Editor. He was tooth and nail opposed to the Congress and the Congressists, yet he gave an absolutely impartial account, setting down nought in malice. We wish our politicians and writers would cultivate this capacity for truth.

REIS & RAYYET.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1888.

THE CONGRESS OF 1888 IN SESSION.

Still it moves! The Congress is not dead, nor on the way to it. It not only lives, but lives well, and enjoys life into the bargain. It is far yet from the sick man to be summarily bundled out of existence, by criticism or even the frowns of the officials. The pulse of abounding life seems to leap in its veins. There is plethora rather than anæmia. The Congress, therefore, is safe, for the moment. That is the remark that will probably suggest itself to the impartial observer of the proceedings even from a distance.

It was a year of trial for it. Springing like the Ganges in obscurity, it was, like the sacred stream, going on swimmingly at a famous rate, leaping from rock to rock, past inconvenient hills and ridges, rubbing off their corners, dodging round unmanageable cliffs, to find its level to the plains, and penetrating and progressing through the country, until it threatened to reach the ill-explored regions of the grim Cimmerians, in the heart of the Continent. Then it met its first check. It was nothing,—a mere pugilistic encounter with Bhagirat, which attracted universal notice from the fame and skill of the combatants, but did not affect the result. That, indeed, was independent of the issue, and almost of the merits, of the duel. On the contrary, so far as the fertilising river was concerned, the momentary resistance only redoubled the hydraulic energy and the imprisoned waters burst the barrier and went dancing triumphantly down the land, to find its Nirvan meet in the bosom of the eternal sea. Even the interposition of the golden words of the Chief keeper of this land, proved of no more avail than the remonstrance of his Lieutenant. The resistless fury of the mad flood, in its grand sweep through the length and breadth of the Empire, carried everything before it, including the official tubs to the whale and the unofficial Partingtonian mop to wipe off the descending Ganges!

In other words, the Congress not only lives but also advances. Type of that Democracy which De Tocqueville the Wise feared, as he confessed, irresis-

tible, it gains ground. There is no checking it—no interfering except with extreme caution. Once the thin end is introduced, it passes through the whole length. The country is of too prodigious extent and enormous population, to be tapped in a trice. There are vast regions, and endless tribes and clans and classes and millions upon millions of men who, notwithstanding a numerous Press and the organised efforts of the Congress Propaganda to reach as far in, and as far down, as possible, are innocent of the existence of the Congress or of Mr. Hume. But that is no argument against the potentiality of the thing. There is a great deal of ignorance and, in consequence, apathy in every country, howsoever enlightened. A generation back, the inquiries in connection with the Census in Great Britain brought out the curious fact that there were many rural parts to which the names of the nation's darling heroes, Nelson and Wellington, had not penetrated, and others in which the inhabitants believed that His Majesty George III. was still king. Likewise, our Indian bumpkins are no more aware of the existence of Lord Lansdowne and his satraps and of the constitution of the Empire than of the Congress and its leaders: nay, they scarcely know the Queen-Empress, unless as the mother of His Lordship the Company Bahadoor, their sovereign. (The poor fellows are there right, after a sort!) The Congress, if it is maintained, is sure to descend to the subterranean regions below the lowest stratum of what is conventionally called "native society," where repose, in undisturbed unconscious giant strength, the millions. Herein lies the significance of the movement—its strength as well as weakness. It were useless obstinacy to shut eyes against the glaring. For better for worse, the Congress is progressing.—Within certain lines perhaps, but progressing it is and no mistake. It is bound to do so. And it will go on prospering to the end of the chapter, provided there are capable leaders to work it up.

Such a self-aggrandising institution, nourished with years, advancing with cumulative *clat* and increasing in number in geometrical progression, naturally improves in intensity and interest as it goes along. Time, the dread of almost everything earthly, is its best friend. It benefits by the hour as it were. Each anniversary is grander—every session more impressive—than its predecessor. The Bombay start was a comparative hole and corner affair, without notice to the country and, of course, without the sympathy of not very many outside the circle of the promoters. The following year, a more regular appeal to the country was made, and accordingly the Calcutta demonstration was grander, though it was here that the unfortunate defection of the Mussalmans introduced the fatal taint in the constitution of the movement. The next session at Madras was even more glorious, for carrying to a remote corner on the Eastern seaboard the patriots from all parts of an empire of continental dimensions. The fourth Congress now sitting at the capital of Upper India has, under all its manifold disadvantages, managed to keep up the continuity of progression.

The Allahabad meeting is a test of vitality. It was understood to be so practically, and it may well be claimed by its promoters to be a success. It was the result of a virtual trial of strength. Not only were the local Committee met by extraordinary and unexpected difficulties in arranging for the reception of so many representatives from different parts, near and far, but the appeal to the country to join the

movement and send representatives was, for the first time, confronted by a powerful opposition. The difficulty was greatest at home. The Mahomedans had early walked out of the business. Their Associations had repeated at the Madras Congress their resolve during the Calcutta session. Although efforts were made, not wholly without success, to lead some stragglers of the Mahomedan persuasion to join, and a very able Mahomedan gentleman was luckily found to take the chair at Madras, it was clear enough to the most casual observer that the leading Mahomedans were conspicuous by their almost total absence. That was bad enough. To darken still farther the prospect for Allahabad, the famous Sir Syud Ahmed Khan of Alighur ranged himself in battle array against the Congress. He offered it not only the combined opposition of all the Islamite Associations of every shade of interest or opinion, but all Islam. Nay, more. He threatened it with a confederacy of his brethren of the Faith with the Hindu nobility and gentry and wealthy classes, throughout the country, and all the native Princes and Chiefs of all creeds in the Empire. With this object, a Propaganda was started at his Head Quarters, Alighur. The Nizam of Hyderabad formally seconded him early and sent the Syud a cheque for expenses. Letters and articles and messages were issued in his name, while his literary man, the accomplished Mr. Theodore Beck, of the College, fired his strong artillery into the enemy's camp. The old man eloquent himself, with one foot in the grave, with marvellous energy if with questionable dignity, descended to "stump" the country against the Congress. Raja Siva Prasad, the great Hindu educationist, too, was uneasy at the innovation. Men like Pandit Sreekishen of Lucknow felt aggrieved. The Talookdars of Oudh showed signs of alarm at the pretensions of the movement. The Baron of Bhinga flung himself into the struggle with powerful pamphlets and trenchant letters to the *Times*. His brother chiefs repudiated the Congress. The feeble old Maharaja of Benares, led by Raja Siva Prasad, declaimed against it. And last not least, the Sikhs would have nothing to do with it. As if all this was not sufficient to fill the Congressists's cup of misery, they, by very wilfulness, invited the ill will of the officials and even the head of the Local Government himself. Mr. Allan Hume is a sort of Hercules with his especial labours of no mean arduousness. His enemies, if such he have, could not help being struck by the extent, strength and elasticity of back of this modern Atlas. He bears the load of a continent with all its zoology, donkeys, dromedaries, zebras, bears, wolves, foxes and all! Notwithstanding all that, the Congress men, from the first, evinced a strange desire to array the officials against them, when their interest lay the other way. In especial, they burned for a fray with the chief of the officials. They did everything to fasten a quarrel with him. From the outset, they accused him of malice against them and their object. Even if there were any ground for suspicion, it was the part of wisdom to pretend ignorance, and subdue him with caresses. Instead, they invented calumny and repeated the most absurd charges. He was not only inimical to their aspirations, but was in league with their enemies. He had in fact set up Sir Syud Ahmed, and was actually forcing the leading men of his jurisdiction to war with the Congress. He condescended to contradict the statement, but it was never given up. It is not a little creditable to the magnanimity of the

English race that, even under such ill usage, men like Sir Auckland Colvin and Lord Dufferin do not return evil for evil, nay, that they can hold the balance of justice even. Mr. Hume was influenced by the ugly rumours brought to him and he proceeded, in characteristic British fashion, to get to their bottom, and, in doing so, unwillingly inflicted harm on his cause. With magnificent audacity, not to say incredible rashness, he formally challenged the criticism of the Lieutenant-Governor, a challenge which could scarcely be declined, and was not likely to be declined, by so wellknown a knight of the quill. There was a fight of giants. The result is well known. The ruler suffered a loss of dignity, but the Congress was exposed to attack in its tenderest part—the part of honour. Of course, this indiscreet controversy having been thrust upon him, naturally reduced Sir Auckland Colvin to the rôle of reconnaissance—an attitude of watchfulness and impartial observation. He is virtually forced, we take it, to abandon his capital during the Congress session. At a time when so many men of distinction are at his capital, the ruler is away, camping in the country. It is easy to say, he need not be. He knows the men he has to deal with, having already suffered from one set. This is the only way he could prevent all possible cause for misunderstanding. Of course, his present attitude too may be used for political capital between the factions.

Yet for a' that, and a' that, what a success! What a grand demonstration! What a fairy scene at Lower Castle! What a gathering of representatives of the various parts of the land! What a combination of all that is best in the land! What a focussing of lights! What a galaxy of stars! As might be expected, the Delegates at this Congress outnumber by far those at any previous occasion. The three hundred and odd who attended the opening Congress at Bombay, have swelled to the thousand and odd hundreds of Allahabad.

In the presence of the national Witenagemots we will not damp the enthusiasm of the moment and the pride of the country, by base prying and suspicion or chemical analysis. We will only say that Raja Siva Prasad played a plucky part and Mr. Allen a surprising one, and that Mr. Yule's address was worthy of the occasion. The quiet retired merchant has suddenly developed into a full-fledged publicist and statesman.

A LOVING POLICE.

IT is difficult to make love and be wise, said the wise Burke. It seems not possible even for the almighty Police of India to love too well and avoid being spoony. In fact, the tenderness of the divine passion is apt, under the rude manipulation of our civil defenders, to degenerate into the horrors of tragedy rather than the vanities of comedy. A painful romance of real life which may yet end in a tragedy, is reported in the *Evening News*. In the District of Chybassa, in the Lieutenant Government of Bengal, lives an Afghan merchant. A native of Cabool, he left his native country many years under the protection of our Government and settled in Chybassa, where he married a respectable Mahomedan lady by whom he has a daughter. The latter is now a little girl of fourteen years and odd months. Although a Purda-screener—lady, she had somehow been seen by the head of the Police of the District and charmed him. In the case of a less exalted specimen of humanity, the matter would have rested there. There could be no closer connection even of an irregular kind, far less proper union, between the Nazarene and the daughter of Islam. But in this unhappy land, more than in any other, the Police is a power. The Police Sahib set his heart upon the girl and the Police is a law unto itself. A Judge or Commissioner or even Magistrate could only nurse

he love in secret and wait for opportunities of meeting, lurk in back gardens like Herman Agha for a chance comfort, or at most pine away in despair like Yusoff. The District Superintendent of Chybassa resolved on the possession of his *inamorata's* person. He had all the resources at command for executing his resolution, and he was too mad with love to stint them on such a mission. He was not only a District Superintendent but a famous one for wild vigour, having earned his laurels in that line in another District. He is, in fine, the hero who shot the tame deer of the Hindoo lady of Rungpore, whose manager had refused him her hunting elephant for a shooting party. He told off a Head Constable with the appropriate name of Joseph (the same as Yusoff) with the assistance of some notorious bad characters under Police surveillance to go and capture his Zuleika and bring her to his residence. So this precious Policeman with his worthy escort went and executed the order. The distracted father repaired to the nearest Police Station to complain. He charged the District Superintendent with carrying away his daughter and concealing her in his house, and urged the Sub-inspector in charge of the Police Station to search there. The Sub would do no such thing. He next applied to the Deputy Commissioner who is the Magistrate of the District, Mr. Renny. The latter told him to make a formal complaint in court. That was no easy matter for the poor man in this Law- and Police-ridden country to do. None of the legal practitioners would for fear write out a complaint against the formidable District Superintendent. He could get one drawn up accusing only the head constable and the *Ghasias* under surveillance who accompanied him. Such as it was, it was presented, but no notice was taken of even this moderate document. The persevering father next repaired to Ranchi to the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore. That functionary directed the Deputy Commissioner to inquire into the complaint. Meanwhile Mr. Renny had left the District on transfer to another. Fortunately for the worried Pathan, Mr. Renny's successor was an officer well-known for his justice and firmness—Colonel W. L. Samuels. The new Deputy Commissioner took up the matter in the proper spirit, and has made his report to the Commissioner. The Superintendent J. C. Stack has been suspended.

We know nothing about the merits of the case. But such a serious statement demands prompt notice. The Police in India, particularly in the remote parts, wield an enormous power, and one of the anxious cares of Government should be to watch that that power may not be abused. We are not of those who think that the Police are all bad. We ourselves know many excellent officers whose conduct we have had the opportunity of judging. But the helplessness of an ignorant and spiritless people is a great temptation to misbehaviour. There is a *raison d'être* in the previous account which disposes us in its favour. The refusal of the village attorney (*moaktear*) to have anything to do with the complaint against the District Superintendent, is characteristic. So is the indifference of the magistrate to a complaint against the Police. Things are not so bad as in the olden days, when the magistrate or criminal judicial officer was the chief constable or Police officer. Nevertheless, the Magistrate is still the head of the Police. Naturally, the magistracy has a great deal of sympathy for the Police, though, no doubt, some few magistrates have a contrary bias. Herein lies the *raison d'être* of that cry that has been heard in all directions for the separation of the judiciary from the executive. Unless the magistracy and the Government are careful, the cry will gain volume.

We hope Government will enquire into this case. It is one of a dangerous character. Nothing exasperates the people so much as an invasion of their home and its veiled inmates, except an attack on their religion. It is lucky that this Afghan has been already acclimatised. He has proved himself a wonderfully good boy, allowing himself to be knocked from pillar to post, in search of the seemingly unknown quantity of British justice. But there is a limit to the patience of the most loyal respector of law and system. We fear this man has nearly reached the limit. He may yet make short work of the "vakil Raj" and the Reign of a mysterious Law in Chybassa.

LORD DUFFERIN'S FAREWELL.

LORD DUFFERIN completed the century of brilliant addresses, by which he enlivened the spirits of Her Majesty's Indian lieges during his administration, with a crowning speech at the Byculla Club, before finally leaving our shores. That it was brilliant, goes without saying, indeed, considering who gave it. It was the finest thing he ever delivered, and

that is saying a great deal for it. Even in lifeless print, it is charming to read. It must have been simply overpowering to listen to it direct from the master's lips!

How finely it commences :—

"I stand before you in the position of a soldier called upon to fire a salute, but who has already expended all his gunpowder. (Laughter and cheers.) I have not even so much as a cartridge left in my pouch. (Laughter.) Nay, I am no longer even a commissioned officer, and am liable to be strung up as a *franc-tireur* if I begin discharging rhetorical fireworks in your midst. (Laughter.) Even were it otherwise, your younger sister—for it is in that light I understand that Calcutta is very properly considered on this side of India—has cheated you of your birthright. (Laughter.) Following a very ancient example, she came and beguiled me with a savoury dish in the form of a haggis (laughter), and has stolen your blessing, that is to say, if you considered a political speech of an hour and a half a blessing after dinner, which it certainly is not to the person who has to deliver it. (Laughter.)"

What an arch turn it takes, to put the hosts in good humour by a sympathetic allusion to the depreciation of the Indian coinage, with a delicate allusion to the drain on the speaker's own purse during his vicerealty, notwithstanding the princely pay of the post :—

MISLEADING THE PUBLIC OF INDIA.

"For all that, I am glad of this opportunity of correcting a palpable mis-statement which crept inadvertently into my St. Andrew's deliverance, and which is now misleading the public of India. It was a gross error of figures; but however humiliating, as an honest man I am bound to correct it. I then stated that in the East two and two have a tendency to make five. I have now had time to square my private accounts, and I find that, as far as the rupee is concerned, so far from two and two making five, the very reverse is the case, and that they only make three. (Loud laughter.)"

That exquisite exordium is followed up with equal spirit. Here in a sentence is dashed off in vivid lines the

FIRST IMPRESSION OF INDIA.

"Probably, of all the variegated scenes that pass in succession before the eyes of an Indian Viceroy during the four or five years that he remains in this country—full of colour and picturesque splendour, as they all are,—the one which is the most ineffaceable, which makes the deepest impression upon both his physical and mental vision—is that which presents itself to his gaze when he first sights your historic shores. (Cheers.) Having traversed many thousand miles of barren ocean, he suddenly finds himself secure within the arms of one of the most magnificent harbours of the East."

By this the wizard has well got the heart of Bombay in his grip. He pursues his advantage as he proceeds to take his hearers into his confidence in regard to

THE CARES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A VICEROY.

"Standing on the threshold of his new life, about to assume a weight, of cares and responsibilities such as is imposed on the shoulders of no other public man in the world—he looks abroad with a feeling of awe upon the new realm he is called on to govern. A display of military pomp, greater even than that which surrounds the Monarchs of Europe accentuates the solemnity of his landing, and when he passes through the thoroughfares of your city, ennobled by buildings which any Western Capital might envy (cheers), he sees on every side, crowding every window and balcony, and thronging every street, lane, and alley, such innumerable multitudes of men and women gazing at him with earnest and expectant eyes, that he shrinks appalled at the thought that it is for the safety and welfare of these thousands, and for other thousands, nay, millions, similar to these—yes, almost for their daily food,—that he, with his limited experience and finite capacities, has become answerable to his Sovereign and to the people of England. (Applause.) The thoughts which pass through his mind, gentlemen, on that occasion are never forgotten, and would be sufficient almost to overwhelm him were it not that the kindly greetings, the loyal addresses, the encouraging promises of support and of indulgent recognition which at once begin to pour in upon him from your Rulers, your Citizens, and your Corporate and other associated Bodies, re-invigorate his spirits, and give him the assurance that, after all, his lines are cast in pleasant places, and that his future work will lie in the midst of a kindly and sympathetic community, while it is shared and lightened by a Public Civil Service that has neither its like nor its equal in the world. (Loud cheers.) But, perhaps only second to these profound impressions, are those which he experiences at the end of his term, when he finds himself again among you on the eve of bidding goodbye to those who so warmly welcomed him on his first arrival. (Applause.)"

"Between the two events, though comprising after all but a short period of time, if merely counted by years, there stretches what in its retrospect almost seems a lifetime—so full has it been of varied experiences of continuous anxiety and of unrelenting effort. The vague and only half surmised troubles and difficulties which rose to his imagination then have since translated themselves into harassing realities. The labour, the worry, the need for constant vigilance, which he anticipated would be great, he has found infinitely more constant and imperative than anything known to his past experience, while, in addition to the cares inseparable from the ordinary work of administration, many an unexpected crisis, thunderbolts out of a clear sky occasioned by circumstances which could not have been foreseen or controlled, have been superadded to task his patience, his endurance, his courage, and his skill to the utmost. (Loud applause.)"

That is a noble picture which will never be forgotten, in Bombay at any rate. It will compare with any in the language. It reminds one

of Lord Brougham's famous description of the anxieties and disappointments which are the penalty of the ambition of Ministers.

He ends as he begins and proceeds, in the same harmonious strain of worthy thought expressed in golden words.

REWARD OF ACCOMPLISHED LABOUR.

"Well then, gentlemen, happy is the man who, however conscious he may be that he has fallen short of his own ideal; that he has failed in some measure to accomplish all the good he might have desired; or completely to remedy the evils with which circumstances called upon him to contend—happy is the man, I say, who, coming back to you at the end of his term, receives at the hands of those who originally welcomed him, such hearty greetings as you and my other friends in this part of the world, both English and Native, have been pleased to accord to me. (Loud cheers). And still happier is he if his conscience does not forbid him to hope that your favourable verdict will perhaps receive the *imprimatur* of history, for it is the future alone that can disclose the effect of a Ruler's actions, or gauge the breadth and depth of the foundations he may have laid for further improvement. (Applause)."

The whole is rich and every part of it delicious. There is not a superfluous word or grating or idle thought or an improper or inadequate expression.

Not the least valuable of Lord Dufferin's legacies is the record of his spoken eloquence. His last speech is his most finished utterance. Apart from its literary skill, the charm of it is principally derived from the soul that breathes in it. There is a vein of unfeigned tenderness throughout which is irresistible.

State Paper.

No. 169.

From P. Nolan, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, on Special Duty,

To the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Dated Calcutta, the 24th October 1888.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report as to the measures which may be adopted with advantage for the purpose of facilitating emigration from the over-populated districts of Bengal to Burma, a subject on which I was deputed to confer with officers of the Burma Commission under the orders contained in your telegram dated the 21st July. These orders reached me at Darjeeling, where I was at the time on leave of absence, and, according to an arrangement made with the Administration of Burma, I proceeded to Rangoon by the steamer leaving Calcutta on the 7th August, having previously consulted the references available in your office and in that of the Bengal Government. A memorandum of discussions in Rangoon, at which Mr. Fryer, Financial Commissioner, Mr. Hodgkinson, Commissioner of Pegu, and Mr. Hall, Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, assisted, is appended to this report. After the subject had been examined in this manner, I went to Mandalay at the desire of the Chief Commissioner, and there had the advantage of receiving an expression of his opinion on our proceedings. The recommendations which I have now the honour of laying before the Government of India are those unanimously adopted at the Rangoon meetings, and afterwards accepted by Sir Charles Crosthwaite. I am also authorised to say that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal entirely approves of the scheme put forward.

2. In order to explain the proposals, it is necessary, in the first place, to make it clear that there is in this case no question of opening out a new field for emigration, as the movement of the labouring classes from Bengal to Burma has been established for a considerable time, it is conducted on a great and increasing scale, and works in a most satisfactory manner. What is wanted is that, without any great change in its character, it should be accelerated and guided so as to produce the greatest possible amount of good. This is a fact which should be fully realized, as the framers of previous schemes for emigration to Burma seem to have underestimated the extent, and to have imperfectly appreciated the advantages of the spontaneous movement of the population, with the result that they acted as if they were introducing a new system, instead of aiding in the development of a beneficial force already at work.

3. In 1881 there were in Lower Burma, according to the census returns, 174,000 persons belonging to Upper India by recent descent, as indicated by the mother tongue, of whom 108,000 had actually been born in the land of their origin. Of the Hindustanis by race, 51,000 were females, of those by birth 25,000. The presence of so many females, and of so many persons born in Burma of Indian parents, indicates that a considerable part of this immigrant population had become domiciled. In 1882-83, the year following that in which the census was taken, the number of emigrants to Burma from India generally (separate figures for Bengal

are not available) was about 72,000, and it is estimated that half of these remained permanently; in 1883-84 it was 83,000, of whom 43,000 settled in the country. The following statement, presented by Mr. Hall to the meeting at Rangoon, shows the immigrants arriving in Rangoon during 1885, 1886, and 1887, but does not include those who were landed at other ports, or who came by land :—

YEAR.	SEX.	IMMIGRANTS.				
		Bengal.	Bombay.	Madras.	Straits.	Total.
1885	Males ...	15,729	3	25,915	3,967	45,614
	Females ...	803	1	2,083	308	3,195
	Children ...	466	2	2,404	190	3,062
		16,998	6	30,402	4,465	51,871
1886	Males ...	29,576	10	34,556	3,903	68,045
	Females ...	979	.....	2,318	243	3,540
	Children ...	429	.....	2,133	133	2,695
		30,984	10	39,007	4,279	74,280
1887	Males ...	29,912	9	45,386	4,735	80,042
	Females ...	1,075	1	2,673	385	4,134
	Children ...	569	1	2,451	230	3,251
		31,556	11	50,510	5,350	87,427

YEAR.	SEX.	EMIGRANTS.				
		Bengal.	Bombay.	Madras.	Straits.	Total.
1885	Males ...	19,407	6	21,365	3,541	44,319
	Females ...	885	1	1,224	446	2,556
	Children ...	469	.....	675	297	1,441
		20,761	7	23,264	4,284	48,316
1886	Males ...	17,076	22	26,679	3,172	46,949
	Females ...	819	9	1,258	267	2,353
	Children ...	365	1	1,042	215	1,623
		18,260	32	28,979	3,654	50,925
1887	Males ...	18,967	.....	23,697	3,226	45,890
	Females ...	717	.....	1,557	322	2,596
	Children ...	303	.....	806	241	1,353
		19,987	.....	26,060	3,789	49,839

The table indicates an addition of twenty thousand to the Bengalee population of Burma in three years, but this gives a very inadequate idea of the facts, as the figures do not include the large emigration from Chittagong to Arracan. They are, however, sufficient to show that the number of persons from Upper India resident in Burma has considerably increased since the date of the census, and cannot now be estimated at less than a quarter of a million, of whom about 150,000 are probably settled in the Province.

4. I find the general opinion in Burma to be that the province requires, and can conveniently find employment for, a much larger number of emigrants; and this belief is abundantly justified by past experience, inasmuch as Lower Burma, since its annexation, has shown a wonderful capacity for supporting, in increasing comfort, a population multiplying at a rate without precedent in the old world. The following table, taken from the Census Report of 1881, gives the available information on this head :—

YEAR.	Popula- tion of Arakan.	Year.	Popula- tion of Pegu.	Year.	Population of Martaban.
1826	100,000	.....	.....	1825	150,000
1829	121,288	.....	.....	.....	.....
1832	195,107	.....	.....	.....	.....
1842	246,766	.....	.....	.....	.....
1852	352,348	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	1858	890,974	1855	87,742
1862	381,985	1862	1,244,385	1862	.....
1872	484,363	1872	1,662,058	1872	205,913
1881	587,518	1881	2,323,512	1881	262,678

Year.	Population of Tenasserim.	Year.	Population of Province.	REMARKS.
1826	70,000	1826	170,000	Martaban was not acquired until 1852; Tenasserim, until that date, included only the parts east of the Salween and Belooogyoon.
.....	
1835	48,917	1835	280,024	
1845	127,455	1845	374,221	
1852	191,476	1852	543,824	Until 1862 Toungoo was included in Pegu, and Martaban was a separate division.
.....	
.....	
.....	
1862	394,264	1862	2,020,634	Martaban is here included in Tenasserim; Toungoo is still included in Pegu in the figures for 1862.
1872	600,727	1872	2,747,148	In 1872 both Toungoo and Martaban were, as at present, included in Tenasserim.
1881	825,741	1881	3,736,771	

It will be seen that not only was annexation in the case of the different districts of Lower Burma followed by a rapid increase in the number of the population, but also that this progress still continues, and that the growth was at the rate of 32 per cent. during the period of eight years and a half which elapsed between the census of 1872 and that of 1881. In the face of this rapid addition to the supply of labourers, wages have not fallen, but, on the contrary, have rather tended to increase. Comparing the returns of the half-year ending the 31st December 1873, the earliest period to which the compilation before me relates, which those for the corresponding portion of 1887, it appears that wages have risen in four of the eight districts therein specified, and fallen only in one.

5. It seems fair to anticipate that the introduction of a settled government will eventually produce in Upper Burma effects similar to those which have resulted from the same cause in the provinces ceded in 1826, and will thus give scope for further emigration from Bengal. The immediate result has been to check the flow of population from Upper to Lower Burma, which in 1886-87 was merely nominal, including only 374 persons. At the date of the last census Lower Burma contained as many as 316,000 immigrants from Upper Burma, so that, even if the effect of the change of government goes no further than to enable the latter province to provide for its own population, the supply of labour from that quarter will be closed, and this will create a further opening for emigration from Bengal.

6. The area of Lower Burma as shown by the Survey Department, is 55,820,902 acres, of which less than one-twelfth (4,561,672 acres) is cultivated, and the remaining 51,259,230 acres lie waste. There is a concurrence of opinion that much of this waste is fertile land, which has only to be cleared and tilled to yield good crops, but the authorities differ greatly in the views which they entertain as to the extent of the area which should be so classified. The annual report for 1886-87 gives 23,407,250 acres available for cultivation, while Mr. Hall, basing his opinion on recent returns made by district officers, and on settlement reports, would greatly curtail this estimate, and considers that in ten districts, with regard to which he possesses information, the lands available amount to 3,641,483 acres only, of which 2,308,483 acres require merely to be cleared, 1,333,000 acres require bunding and draining. Mr. Hall's estimate excludes large tracts of good soil merely because they are situated in the hills, and probably differs from that previously accepted in treating as reclaimable only land which can immediately be brought into cultivation at a profit. The discrepancy, wide as it is, has no present importance, inasmuch as all agree in considering that there are several millions of acres of waste land, which is a supply more than sufficient for the probable requirements of the next fifteen years. Mr. Hall's estimate, when completed for all the Province, will probably amount to six millions of acres capable of supporting in comfort four millions of persons, and the present rate of reclamation appears to be about 100,000 acres a year; so that, were it quadrupled, the period indicated must elapse before the best lands are all taken up. The most promising tract is that about to be opened by the railway from Rangoon to Mandalay, where Mr. Mylne has selected his ground, and particularly the waste lands in the Toungoo district. In this district Mr. Hall finds no less than 1,203,814 acres available for immediate reclamation.

Holloway's Pills.—In the complaints peculiar to females these Pills are unrivalled. Their use by the fair sex has become so constant for the removal of their ailments that rare is the household that is without them. Amongst all classes, from the domestic servant to the peeress, universal favour is recorded to these renovating Pills; their invigorating and purifying properties render them safe and invaluable in all cases; they may be taken by females of all ages for any disorganization or irregularity of the system, speedily removing the cause and restoring the sufferer to robust health. As a family medicine they are unapproachable for subduing the maladies of young and old.

7. The area available for reclamation in Upper Burma has not been estimated in figures, but in many districts it is considerable. It is said, for instance, that in Kyaukse large areas of land cultivated in recent times and advantageously situated on the banks of irrigation canals are now lying waste, and that the south-east of Alón, in Lower Chindwin, is a wonderfully fertile tract which, if properly treated, could support five times its present population. There is also a great deal of reclaimable waste in the Shwebo, Yeu, Upper Chindwin, Myengyon, Toungdvengyi and Muktila districts, Yeu being specially commended on account of the suitability of its climate to natives of India.

8. The main attraction of Burma as a field for immigration is doubtless the comparatively high wages which can be obtained there. The following statement, compiled from the returns published by the Government of India, shows the average monthly wage of an able-bodied agricultural labourer in Chittagong, the district of Bengal from which emigrants depart in the greatest number, in the Behar districts, and in Burma, excluding Kyook Phyoo, to which no immigrants go—

BENGAL.			
DISTRICT.	Wages.		
	Half-year ending 30th June.	Half-year ending 31st December.	Average for the whole year, 1887.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Chittagong...	9 0 0	10 8 0	9 12 0
Patna ...	4 0 0	4 8 0	4 4 0
Mozufferpore ...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0
Monghyr ...	4 0 0	5 10 0	4 13 0
Hazaribagh ...	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0

BURMA.			
DISTRICT.	Wages.		
	Half-year ending 30th June.	Half-year ending 31st December.	Average for the whole year, 1887.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Akyab ...	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
Rangoon ...	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
Prome ...	30 0 0	15 0 0	22 8 0
Bassein ...	15 0 0	17 8 0	16 4 0
Moulmein and Amherst.	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
Toungu ...	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0
Mandalay ...	15 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0

As the cost of subsistence should always be taken into account in comparing wages in different provinces, I add a statement showing the average price of food in the same districts during the ten years from 1878 to 1887, inclusive—

BENGAL.			
District.	Number of seers per rupee.		
	Rice.	Maize.	Salt.
Chittagong ...	17'97	.....	9'50
Patna ...	18'33	30'03	10'13
Mozufferpore ...	18'09	30'09	10'52
Monghyr ...	16'23	30'61	10'81
Hazaribagh ...	18'33	26'99	9'16
Average ...	17'75	29'43	10'02

BURMA.				
District.	Number of seers per rupee.			
	Rice.	Maize.	Salt.	
Akyab	14'31	.....	32'14	
Rangoon	13'06	.....	24'35	
Prone	14'51	34'42	19'05	
Bassein	14'67	.....	23'63	
Moulmein and Amherst	13	.....	25'84	
Toungu	15'34	.....	17'89	
	14'15	34'42	23'81	

These tables give a bird's-eye view of the difference between Behar and Burma in regard to the remuneration of labour, and the case in favour of emigration is strengthened if we descend to particulars, as is done in regard to Burma in Mr. Hall's note, appended to the proceedings of the 17th August, and as to Bengal in my letter to the Government of India, No. 81T--R, dated 30th June 1888. In Behar the demand for labour on any terms seldom extends beyond eight months of the year, while in Burma, though there is a busy season and a slack, yet, as temporary immigrants come over for the former, the permanent resident can always secure work. In Behar the cost of maintaining a labourer, resident can always secure work. In Behar the cost of maintaining a labourer, when fed by his employer, is estimated at only 9 pies a day, or less than a rupee and-a-half a month: in Burma at four to five rupees a month. This difference is not due in any appreciable degree to the prevalence in Burma of higher prices, but to the more generous scale of living in that province and the superior condition in which labourers expect to be maintained. Moreover, it appears that in Behar the actual wages paid in kind are of lower value than those entered in the returns. Thus, while the statement shows that the labourer receives in Patna from four rupees to five a month, the Collector of that district writes:--

"The condition of those who support themselves entirely by labour is rather worse than that of the better class of petty cultivators. They are almost always paid in kind, the usual allowance of a grown man being 2 to 2 half seers of the coarsest and cheapest grain, value about one and quarter annas. Women receive about half this rate, but their employment is less regular. Ordinarily, male labourers do not find employment for more than eight months of the year.

"A wage of one and quarter annas per day would be about Rs. 2-6 per mensem; but taking an average of Rs. 2 per mensem throughout the year, the annual earnings of an adult would be about Rs. 24; his wife's earnings might be Rs. 6--total Rs. 30, which is not enough to give two adults and two children a full supply of the coarsest food, with sufficient clothing and a hut to shelter them. The Sub-divisional Officer of Behar estimates the earnings for a labourer at

2 annas per diem, or Rs. 4 per mensem; but even this rate, which I think an over-estimate, would only yield Rs. 32 for the eight months during which labour is generally to be had.

"The conclusion to be drawn is that of the agricultural population, a large proportion, say 40 per cent., are insufficiently fed, to say nothing of clothing and housing. They have enough food to support life and to enable them to work, but have to undergo long fasts, having for a considerable part of the year to satisfy themselves with one full meal in the day."

9. To the Chittagong emigrants the difference between the wages current in their own district, which in this respect is the best in Bengal, and the Burma rates means an appreciable increase in comfort. To the Behari it is often a matter of life and death, the remuneration he receives, when in employment, not being sufficient to support life in a healthy state, if he has to provide for a family, much less to permit of his making provision for the period when he can get no work. At the rate allowed to prisoners in the Behar Jail, the maximum wage in kind mentioned by the Collector of Patna, --two seers and-a-half a day,--is just enough to find grain for the food for two adults, leaving no margin for salt, clothing, or other minor expenses. But it must frequently happen that the breadwinner has more than one adult dependent on him, at least temporarily; and then there are the seasons when employment is irregular, or cannot be had. The general opinion of the District Officers and of the Superintendents of Jails, who have special means of observation, is that the working classes in those parts are inadequately fed, and this view has been adopted with natural reluctance by the Government of Bengal. To the labourer working under such conditions, emigration to Burma comes as a rescue from one of the greatest of human evils--the hopeless struggle to rear a family on wages which will not purchase sufficient food even of the coarsest kind.

10. I have frequently been surprised to observe the large price which Behar artisans who have made money, as, for instance, carpenters returning to their own country from a successful visit to Derjeeling, are willing to pay for the tenant's interest in land situated in their native villages, though that interest is generally only the right to hold on an insecure tenure at a high rate of rent. In Burma any labourer can in a few years earn sufficient to establish himself as a cultivator, paying only the public revenue, assessed on all alike at a moderate rate, and absolutely free from all danger of disturbance. This is a consideration which has great weight with the inhabitants of Chittagong, who contribute a large proportion, perhaps a majority, of the Bengal emigrants, and though the advantage may seldom be present to the minds of the less prosperous settlers from Behar, it nevertheless extends equally to them, and must be appreciated in the end. In his own country the agricultural labourer cannot hope to rise a step in the social scale, the only prospect before him is to live a life of penury, bequeathing a similar fate as an inheritance to his posterity. In Burma, if he be industrious and frugal, he gradually acquires property, and his children are started with the fair prospect of a prosperous career.

[To be continued.]

NOTICE.

THEIR Excellencies the Viceroy and Marchioness of Lansdowne will receive, on Thursday afternoon, the 10th January 1889, in the Gardens of Government House, from 4 to 6 P. M.

All Ladies and Gentlemen having the entrée at Government House are invited to attend and those having children to bring them.

WILLIAM BERESFORD,
Lieut.-Colonel,

Military Secretary to the Viceroy.

GOVT. HOUSE CALCUTTA,

Military Secretary's Office,

28th December 1888.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta

WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL,

on Thursday, the 3rd January 1889, at 3 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To consider the proposal to contract an additional loan of 5 lacs of Rupees for the extension of the Water Works.

2. To confirm the proceedings of the Special Committee for preparing addresses to the

outgoing and incoming Viceroys at Meetings held on the 26th November, 4th and 8th December 1888.

3. To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 19th November, 1st and 15th December 1888.

4. To confirm the proceedings of the Water Supply Extension Committee at a Meeting held on the 6th December 1888.

5. To confirm the proceedings of the Bustee and Sanitary Committee at a Meeting held on the 27th November 1888.

6. To confirm the proceedings of the Assessment Committee at a meeting held on the 20th December 1888.

7. The Chairman to lay upon the table Vital Statistics for the months of October, and November 1888.

At the close of the Special General Meeting,
A SPECIAL MEETING

will be held to sanction the application from Messrs. George Henderson and Co. for renewal of license for jute godown at Nos. 42 and 43 Doorga Churn Mookerjee's Street.

JOWN COWIE,

Secretary to the Corporation.

Rivers Steam Navigation Co. "Limited."

ASSAM AND CACHAR LINE
NOTICE.

This Company's Steamer "CASHMERE" will leave Calcutta for Assam on Friday the 4th prox., and on Tuesday the 1st prox. the Steamer "THIKAK" will leave Calcutta for Cachar.

All cargo for shipment by either of the above vessels should be sent to the Company's Godowns at Juggannath Ghat the day previous to the vessels leaving Calcutta.

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 A. R. Mehta from Bandora says:—"The
 7-8 watch I purchased from you two years
 back, gives correct time as yet." Acting Su-
 perintendent, Government Farm, Khandesh,
 says:—"A watch maker has valued your
 Rs. 7-8 watch for Rs. 15." Mr. J. Sutcliffe, R.
 W. Fusi. Regt., Lucknow, says:—"Some valued
 it at Rs. 15 and were completely surprised when
 I told them it only costs Rs. 7-8." Pretty
 Canadian Gold Chains, Locketts, Pencils, com-
 plete shirt Studs and Rings set with chemical
 diamonds, rubies, &c., at Rs. 2 each. Mr. J.
 A. Yelsmore, Satur, says:—"The *best gold-*
smith of this place values the chain for
 Rs. 7 and the locket for Rs. 10." Mr. G.
 Smith, Salt Inspector, Sanikutla, says:—"A
 German valued the diamond ring at Rs. 50 and
 the ruby at Rs. 30." WESTERN INDIA
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 Behar and Orissa.)

Latterly Minister of the Tipperah State.

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 CALCUTTA.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

It is many years since I first met, and some
 years since I last met, Dr. Sambhu Chunder
 Mookerjee, editor of the *Reis and Rayyet*
 (Prince and Peasant), and an author of high
 repute among the kindly, as well as acute and
 intellectual, people of Bengal. One of the real
 misfortunes of India was, and still is, Lord
 Macaulay's picture of the Bengalee. The
 picture true perhaps as regards Nuncomar and
 many Bengalees, is not accurate as represen-

tation of the people generally, taking them as
 an Englishman may find them if he looks
 fairly. If they had been unfaithful, the sad
 story of the Mutiny had been vastly sadder;
 and, apart from the Mutiny, many Englishmen
 could give individual instances of Bengalee
 faithfulness almost unique in history, taking
 all the circumstances of our relation to India
 into account. The Bengalee is generally eager
 for knowledge of all kinds, and is often both
 courageous in the expression of his opinions,
 and gifted to a remarkable degree with the
 power to express those opinions with force and
 precision. Mr. Fawcett once told me that an
 unprepared speech made, on his behalf, during
 an election, by a young Hindoo, surpassed, in
 force as well as eloquence, any unprepared
 speech he ever had heard made by any mem-
 ber of the House of Commons, if four or five
 members of the House were excepted.

Among these Bengalees there is a small body
 of men—small for that large province—who
 are, ironically or otherwise termed "Young
 Bengal." Some of them are no longer young,
 but grave and aged; some have, in the course
 of years, been highly distinguished for their
 public services and their scientific and other
 attainments. Some have at times been mis-
 represented, and their language misinterpreted,
 so that on its return to them it has amazed
 none more than themselves. Nothing of this
 has been done by the really great adminis-
 trators of India. That it has been done, however,
 cannot be denied.

In the forefront of this little band is the
 author of this book of travels, Baboo Sambhu
 Chunder Mookerjee—a writer of high repute,
 as I have said, also an administrator, as the
 reader will see from the title-page to this book.
 A keener, yet a kinder satirist, one might
 seek for and not find. His use of the English
 language has astonished many an educated
 Englishman; and the quality of his reading is
 shown by his marvellous power of quotation;
 not merely from authors like Shakespeare, and
 Milton, and Macaulay, and men eminent in
 science, but from out-of-the-way old ballads,
 and little-known old pamphlets, in the applica-
 tion of which he leaves one wondering—first,
 how he obtained the productions at all, and
 secondly, how, having obtained them, he
 learned to apply them so appositely to the
 subjects which he intends them to illustrate.

Passing from the author to his book, we
 shall, perhaps, first of all be attracted to the
 work of the administrator. He comes upon a
 milkman's village, on which he finds fastened
 the grip of a Court favourite. He unloosens
 the grip, and re-settles the village, in the
 double interest of Prince and Peasant. And
 all the time he sees everything. The poor
 people bathing on the rivers' banks, have his
 genial and kindly, if also at times, what a
 Scotchman would call, his "pawky" notice.
 A "fair maid of Sonargoan" attracts his at-
 tention by the gracefulness with which she
 carries a vessel of water from the river; and,
 though the fair maid and he are divided by
 race and faith (she is Mussulman), she has his
 full meed of praise. Indeed, it must be admit-
 ted—and he will not be offended with me for
 saying so—that he never meets with a fair face,
 without at least giving evidence of the fact
 that he has eyes to see and a heart to com-
 prehend.

Of his wide and generous sympathies, much
 might be said, and still leave much more to
 say. He meets a missionary on the river, and
 evidently is inclined, in writing his notes, to
 pass a joke on the subject. He nips it, how-
 ever, in the bud, and contents himself with
 saying, "So now is preaching here, that the
 simple people said the padre had been singing
 in the street." He meets Catholic and Pro-
 testant missionaries on shipboard, and chuckles
 over their disputes, while he astonishes them
 by his command of the English language, and
 even by his knowledge of the Bible—a know-
 ledge, I may add, which is evident in many of
 his writings.

A parrot falls overboard, and is drowned in
 its cage, to his great distress, which is not
 however paraded. He says: [Extract.]

These are not the words of a Christian, but
 of a Hindoo.

Again, he has a faithful ugly dog, whose
 name is Tom, and whose glory it once was to
 quark, with a noble independence, at some very
 dignified Sahibs. Our author is compelled, to

leave Tom behind; and here is his farewell:
 [Extract.]

I think this is a very fine passage, and one
 that will draw the author very close to the
 great heart of humanity, wherever the words
 are read. Could anything be finer than the
 testimony to the two foreign "gentlemen,"
 ending with the "Bengalee *pariah*, my poor
 Tom"? Not the pariah merely, but the pariah
 dog. The passage is worthy of the author,
 and of the great mercifulness of the land that
 bore him.

Whoever reads this book must be prepared
 further to find bold and manly language. The
 author is no flatterer of John Bull, though he
 gives John his due, and admits that India owes
 him a great debt. Here is one passage relating
 to foreign fruits: [Extract.]

Among the sketches of country—word-pic-
 tures—the reader will find some exceedingly
 pretty, and all the more valuable in that they
 are taken from a standpoint purely Indian;
 not English. Where an English artist's mind
 would be filled with European ideas, the mind
 of this gifted Eastern artist is filled with a class
 of ideas totally different, yet equally instructive
 and certainly not less subtle and far-reaching.

On the eve of one of his journeys, our
 author was placed in a dilemma of a kind
 not unknown to travellers in India, but not on
 that account the less stupid. He wished to
 go by a particular boat, and took time by the
 forelock for that purpose. The fare was at
 first stated as 90 rupees, to pay which he
 offered "a new crisp, fresh British India" note
 for 100 rupees. "It was," he adds, "fresh from
 the Currency Office, and had been received
 only the day before from another Government
 department." The rest of the story is
 thus told: [Extract.]

The humour of the little sketch is worth
 something. I can fancy the author laughing
 even in his dismay; for he can laugh well at
 others, and equally well at himself. I shall
 only venture on one more passage; and I give
 it as showing the spirit of the man who dares
 to call his newspaper *Prince and Peasant*.
 He desired to return to his home in Bengal,
 and to bid adieu, for a time at least, to Inde-
 pendent Tipperah, where he had been located
 "some two years." He received the Maha-
 rajah's permission to return home; but still he
 could not get away. [Extract.]

There is, I think, a sound lesson in this pas-
 sage; the lesson of the immense value of
 courtesy and urbanity in the relations of rulers
 and ruled. There is a great deal in that sen-
 tence, "*He seive flesh and blood*." The best
 administrator in India is not always the ablest,
 the man whose plans are the wisest as plans;
 but the man who, with plans or without them,
 gives confidence to the people, and confidence
 not merely in his justice, but also in his con-
 siderateness and forbearance. A clever man
 once said that threat of success in India is the
 art of giving good dinners. It may be so; but
 the peril is great—the peril of debt; and in
 any case the art has its limits, and its natural
 collapse. Even dinners and champagne pall
 in the end. But there is one art that never
 fails—the art of true courtesy; of that courtesy
 which, being natural, is not affected by any
 whim or caprice, either of the person who
 possesses it, or of any one with whom he has
 relations.

In bidding farewell to this little book, I once
 more recall, as I easily and very vividly can,
 the author's kindly face and gentle voice, as
 known to me many years ago. I see him, as
 I see Baboo Kisto Das Pal, Dr. Mahendra
 Lal Sircar, and some others, including a much-
 abused editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*;
 and I feel and say, with all earnestness and
 sincerity, that among these are men whom
 the Government of India would be wise in
 recognising and winning entirely to its side.
 They are men on whom no really generous
 word—true as well as generous—ever is
 thrown away. I have compared them at times
 with men of kindred occupations at home,
 and I think that they are as a rule, by far
 the truer gentlemen in good manners, and
 often in very much more than mere manners.
 May the great God, whose sacred Name they
 use as that of the Father of all, guide them to
 a nobler destiny than any they yet have
 known, and with them, and by them, bless
 their native land!

JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

—The Indian Magazine, Mar. 1888.

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The authoress is not unknown to Bengali readers. She has already published two or three poems by which she is favourably known, but between these poems and this is a difference that hardly admits of being measured.

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8.10.58